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THE DELUGE.

THE beginning of the great political deluge is fixed for March next. It is hoped by its admirers that this great catastrophe, in bearing other things with it to the ground, will cause the destruction of Austria and, to a certain extent, of Turkey. At all events Austria and Turkey will be the first countries to suffer by it, and, if the foundations of the Continental system are once well shaken in that very unstable part of Europe known as the Danubian Principalities, the two empires we have just mentioned may both fall. But what matters that? Hungary, we are told, will form a substitute for the Austrian empire—hitherto the great check against Russia on the Danube; and it is expected that an independent Moldo-Wallachian kingdom will assist the new Magyar-Slavonian State in restraining the immense northern and north-eastern Power from making any advances against either Germany or Turkey. The probabilities, however, that the new Hungary, which has yet to be formed by "Governor" Kossuth, assisted by Generals Klapka, Kmeti, and Turr, will prove quite powerless as a curb upon Russia, are not diminished by the fact that more than two-thirds of the population of Hungary detest the Hungarians (that is to say, the land-holding Magyars and their descendents), and speak a language almost identical with that of the Russians.

We believe that a war in Turkey does not of necessity enter into the plan conceived by the leaders of the coming revolution. It is difficult, however, to say where this great insurrection is to stop, and whether it will not lead to a general political orgie from the Baltic to the Black Sea. It is certain that the inhabitants of the Turkish provinces on the Danube are preparing to liberate themselves from the Sultan, and that they will make the attempt simultaneously with the rising of their neighbours in the Austrian provinces. No one would grudge them their independence if they could only keep it; but all the politicians of England, Austria, and France are agreed that if the connection of Moldavia, Wallachia, and Servia with Turkey is severed—that is to say, if these little Principalities are deprived of the Sultan's protection and that of his powerful allies—they must sooner or later fall into the hands of Russia, already their patron and their spiritual guide. Russia might even begin by interfering, as if on the part of the Porte, to

suppress the insurrection, and, having once got the provinces down, she would contrive to hold them. It may be said that the other countries of Europe would not tolerate this; but Austria will be fully occupied on her own account, and France, with a large body of troops in Syria, and an army of civil employés in Syria, may be prepared to make a profitable bargain with Russia.

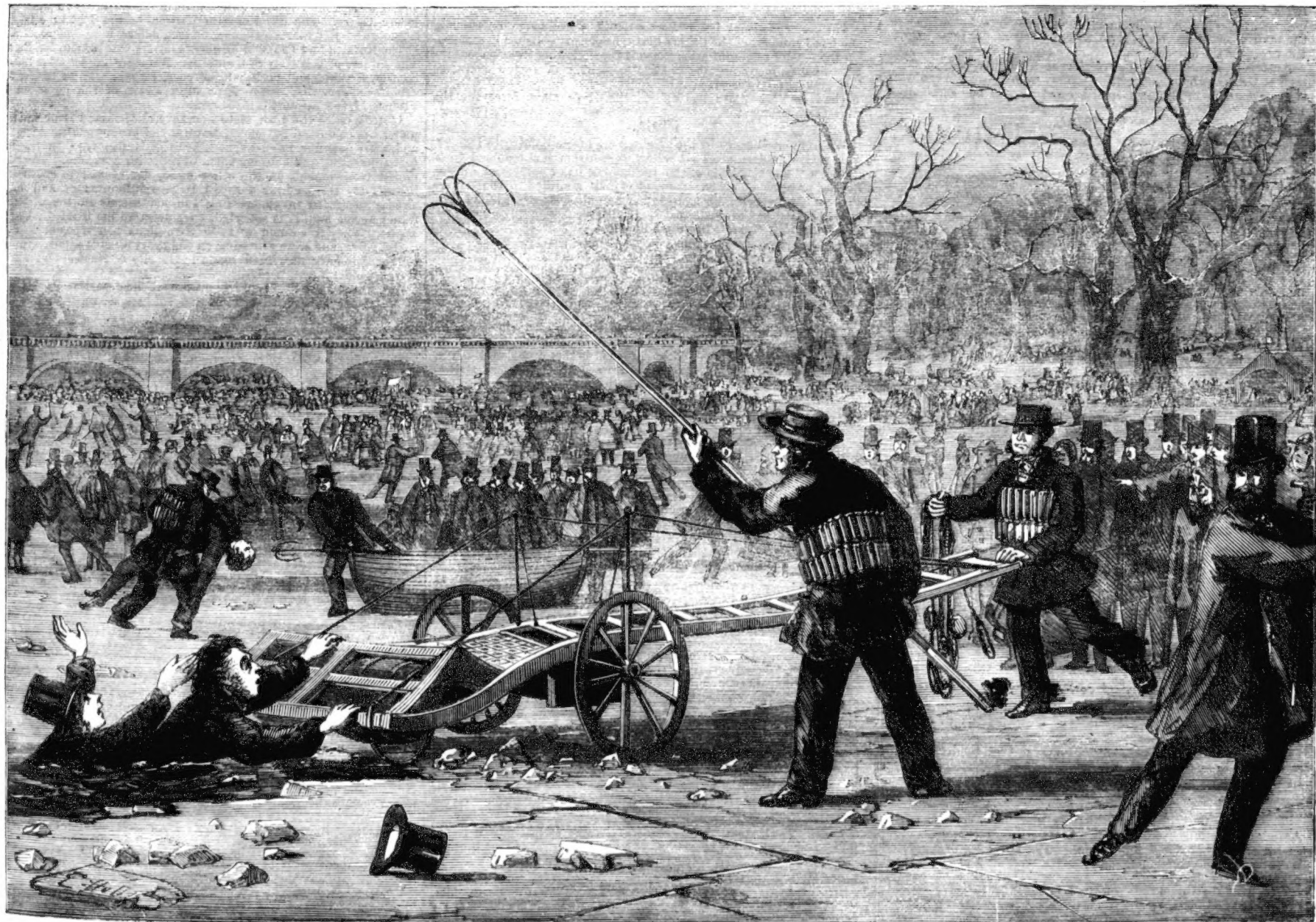
While Austria attacks the Italians—which, in the present position of affairs, would amount only to defending herself against them—it appears that Prussia, supported by the whole German Confederation, means to provoke a war with Denmark on the question of Germany's right to interfere in the government of the Danish Duchies. It will look like fatality little if Prussia presses her quarrel with free, courageous Denmark just now, when the latter can count positively on the active support of her Scandinavian sister, when all the great Powers of Europe, with the single and worthless exception of Austria, declare that the German Confederation has no pretext for interfering in the affairs of the Duchies, and when France is evidently only waiting for a good opportunity to claim once more the Rhine provinces, which, according to French Government geographies, belong inalienably to "Gaul." It would be unfair at any time for Prussia to assume towards Denmark the attitude she has lately taken up; but at the present moment it is not courageous (for Prussia has no serious, heartfelt cause of quarrel with her neighbour), but simply rash and absurd, that she should invite war in one quarter, when, invited or not, war is sure to present itself to her in another. If, as is possible enough, the Emperor Napoleon supports the Italians in the coming struggle against Austria, the German Confederation must sooner or later find itself at war with France. It will thus (unless the Danish quarrel be speedily arranged) be forced to fight the Scandinavians on one side, and the French, allied with all the revolutionists in Europe, on the other, to say nothing of the work which Austria, apart from the other German States, may have to do in Hungary and in Italy.

The Emperor Napoleon has not yet tied his hands by attaching himself to any policy, as between the party of Order and the party of Revolution. But he is always in favour of gaining as much as possible for France, and by any means. It is not

likely that he will lose in the general lottery and scramble now about to begin, and he may win largely. His principles are simply those of an experienced and judicious gambler. He is not going to stake much at first—not France or his position as Emperor, but simply his reputation for honesty and candour, which has already been played with a good deal. If, however, he sees his way clearly when the game has once commenced, there is no saying what he may not aim at, from a small Italian island to the whole of the left bank of the Rhine.

Francis II., on his side, is speculating already for the fall. He is apparently convinced that the Emperor who has served him such a good turn at Gaeta will not turn against him at Naples or, indeed, anywhere else in Italy. If the French do not interfere, the Austrians, he thinks, will invade Lombardy in a month or six weeks, and the besieging army of General Cialdini will be called away from the Neapolitan territory. In the meanwhile the bombardment of Gaeta is being carried on with vigour, and the place will perhaps have to capitulate before the Austrians are able to move.

The news from Russia is evidently bad. The definitive settlement of the serf question has been postponed until September—which may mean either that the timidity of the Emperor in presence of his nobles is increasing, and that he dares not emancipate the peasants with the plots of land which they are in the habit of cultivating, which they regard as their own property, and without which they would not care for emancipation at all; or that he considers it unsafe to introduce so important a change on the eve of the tremendous conflict with which all Europe is threatened. However this may be, we hear that the peasants are refusing to work, that incendiarism is greatly on the increase, and that all Russia is in a state of very dangerous agitation. Here, then, are fresh elements in the general European disturbance now brewing. In short, look where we will beyond the British isles, no signs of peace are visible. The moment, then, does not seem particularly well chosen for demanding a revision of our national expenditure and a reduction of our naval and military establishments, though it is well known that a petition to that effect has been drawn up, and that forty members of Parliament have been found sufficiently blind, or sufficiently careless about the national honour and safety, to append their signatures to it.



A RESCUE ON THE SERPENTINE BY THE ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY'S MEN - SEE PAGE 19

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The French Senate met on Tuesday afternoon. The business appropriated to them was very simple. They were merely called on to adopt a *senatus consultum* for carrying out that part of the Emperor's programme of last November which allows their own debates and those of the Corps Legislatif to be made public. Summaries of the debates will be drawn up by Government officials and supplied to the press, which the journal must print entire or not at all. The Senate appointed a commission to examine this mockery of parliamentary publicity without the slightest discussion.

AUSTRIA.

We learn from Pesth that the Emperor of Austria had dispatched what may be termed a categorical reply to the proceedings which have lately taken place in Hungary, in the shape of a formal series of resolutions transmitted to the Stattholder of Buda by the Chancellor of Hungary. The election to the committee of the Comitatus of refugees from the country for political reasons becomes, by this document, null and void. The Comitatus are prohibited from making any ordinance in reference to taxes, and punishment is to be inflicted on all persons who refuse to pay taxes. A vote of the Diet can alone bring about a change in the tribunals now existing, or in the civil and penal codes now in force. The practical establishment of the institutions granted by the Constitution of 1848 is prohibited, and the public functionaries have received orders to oppose it by the most stringent measures. Any committees of the Comitatus which shall refuse compliance are to be suspended or dissolved. The assemblies of the Comitatus have no executive power, and therefore cannot issue ordinances. Nevertheless, it is added, that the Imperial diploma of Oct. 20 will undergo no modification, and that the concessions granted to Hungary will remain unabridged. To these resolutions the Comitatus of Gran has voted the following reply:—"The permanent conflicts with the Government have rendered Hungary distrustful. The Imperial diploma of the 20th of October is in contradiction with the Pragmatic Sanction, which is binding on the King as well as on the nation. The oath taken by Charles III. is binding on his successors. Taxes not sanctioned by the Hungarian Diet are illegal. The Comitatus demands guarantees for the rights of the Diet to sanction or to reject taxes, and wishes that the King (Emperor of Austria) should reside in Hungary."

That the councils of the moderate party in Hungary are gaining ground appears from the proceedings of the General Assembly of the city of Pesth. At the last meeting of that body M. Deak opposed the immediate assumption of the judicial power by the Hungarians, and said, "At this moment we have only to choose between Austrian laws and anarchy." The Assembly adopted the views of M. Deak, and agreed to preserve for the present the Austrian laws. At Neutra, also, a more moderate disposition has been exhibited by the Comitatus, who, at the energetic remonstrances of the Austrian Government, permitted, without opposition, the re-establishment of the court of justice, and the officers have been enabled to fulfil their duties.

The Imperial ordinances for the convention of the Hungarian Diet have been issued. The day fixed for the meeting is the 2nd of April, at Buda.

The municipalities of Prague have adopted a petition requesting the responsibility of Ministers and the early assembling of the Imperial Diet.

The official *Wiener Zeitung* publishes an Imperial decree ordering the emission of a new five per cent loan of 30,000,000 florins at 88. The object of this loan being merely to anticipate the payment of the taxes, the Minister of Finance is to issue the securities in such a manner that a fifth of their amount may be redeemed at a time, and the tax-collectors are ordered to accept them at par in payment of the taxes for the current year.

Austria is, according to *Le Nord*, concentrating a body of 25,000 men at Grosswardein, as a central point, from which she can watch the movements of the Principalities and Servia, but especially of Hungary.

PRUSSIA.

The King of Prussia, on the 16th, sent for all the Generals present at Berlin, and (according to the *New Gazette of Prussia*) thus spoke to them:—

"I have been called to the throne at an epoch full of dangers, and with the prospect of combats in which I shall perhaps have need, gentlemen, of all your devotedness. If I, and the Princes who, like me, desire the maintenance of peace, do not succeed in turning aside the storm which is rising, we shall have need of all our forces to resist and to defend ourselves. I am happy to see Field-Marshal Wrangel, who is always full of vigour, still at your head. For you, my dear Minister of War, I have not prepared a bed of roses, and you must courageously labour to make the army what it ought to be for the future protection of Prussia. Let us not indulge in any illusions. If I do not succeed in turning aside the conflict, we shall be engaged in a combat in which we must vanquish if we are not willing to be annihilated."

The *Cologne Gazette* publishes the text of the Address of the House of Nobles in reply to the Speech from the Throne. The Address does not make any allusion to the Holstein question. As regards the apprehension of a general war, the Address expresses the hope that peace will not be disturbed; but, should it be otherwise decreed, Prussia would rise like one man "for the homes, rights, and honour of Prussia."

The distribution of standards took place at Berlin on the 18th inst. One hundred and forty-two standards were distributed among the different regiments. The King was enthusiastically received.

The Government presented on the 21st to the Chamber of Deputies the budget of 1861. The budget sets down the ordinary expenses at 132 millions of thalers, and extraordinary expenses at seven millions. Taxes gave an increase of nine millions upon the previous year—eight of which are appropriated to army expenses.

DENMARK.

The position of Denmark continues to be defiant. A Royal decree has been published calling out 6700 sailors from the kingdom of Denmark and the Duchy of Schleswig. A public address has been prepared, and is being largely signed, praying the King to resist every attempt to interfere from abroad with the internal affairs of Denmark, and to maintain the Danish nationality in the Duchy of Schleswig, but at the same time urging that full liberties in accordance with the Danish Constitution should be granted to that Duchy.

A resolution of the German Diet calling on Denmark to declare herself within six weeks relative to the fulfilment of the conditions proposed by the Diet of 1860, and threatening her, in case of non-compliance, with federal execution, will no doubt add to the exasperation of King and people.

The *Patrie* says:—"A rumour is current that England, France, and Russia are on the point of coming to an understanding in order to bring about a solution of the Danish question by amicable means."

AMERICA.

The momentous question which is now agitating the great American Republic from its centre to its circumference continues to increase in gravity and importance. From the South we receive nothing but tidings of preparations for war, and of the extreme probability of Mississippi, Alabama, and Louisiana at once seceding from the Union. The telegrams indicate that the secession ordinance had actually been adopted by Mississippi, while from New Orleans, the capital of Louisiana, and the chief entrepôt of southern commerce, we receive the news that a decided majority of its inhabitants had voted in favour of disunion candidates for the State Convention. The only division of opinion which appeared to exist in these extreme southern States had reference solely to the

mode of accomplishing a separation from the Union—some being in favour of independent action, while others advocated a general convention of the Slave States.

The Charleston Convention had passed an ordinance making the levying of war against the State punishable with death. This, of course, applies only to citizens of the State who may be guilty of high treason. The Convention has also conferred federal powers upon the courts of law, and congressional power upon the General Assembly; so that South Carolina may now be regarded as invested with all the attributes of sovereignty, so far as her internal organisation is concerned.

The President sent reinforcements to Fort Sumter, but the vessel containing them was fired into by the State troops at Charleston, and they were prevented from landing. The sloop-of-war Brooklyn had sailed for that city—possibly with the means necessary to enable it to throw supplies and reinforcements into the fort.

It is said that an attempt is to be made to starve out Fort Sumter, and to capture it by means of rafts—a statement which must be set down, for the present, as a canard. A combination is talked of to take possession of Washington before Mr. Lincoln is installed into office, but this, no doubt, is likewise a mere piece of floating gossip. Alabama military companies were in possession of the forts at Mobile under instructions from the Governor of Alabama. It is announced from Georgia that the Governor of that state has seized, and garrisoned with militia the forts in the harbour of Savannah.

The message of Governor Letcher, delivered to the Virginia Legislature on the 7th, discusses the affairs of the nation at considerable length. He renews his proposition for a State convention, to decide upon the course of the State in the event of disruption, which he considers inevitable. He condemns in decided terms the course of South Carolina in taking steps to dissolve her connection with her sister States without consultation. After rehearsing the terms upon which he believes that the Union might still be preserved, Governor Letcher closes this portion of his message with the declaration that he will regard any attempt of the general Government to transport troops across the territory of Virginia, for the purpose of coercing another State, as an act of invasion which must be repelled.

In Congress the work of compromise was still being attempted. A committee of the border States (both Slave and Free) had agreed upon a proposition bearing a close resemblance to Mr. Crittenden's. This scheme forbids slavery to the north of 36 deg. 30 min., but sanctions it to the south of that line. It proposes the repeal of the Personal Liberty Acts on the part of the Northern States, but suggests that fugitive slaves shall have the benefit of trial by jury, and that the Fugitive Slave Law shall be amended so as to prevent kidnapping, and to ensure the equalisation of the commissioners' fees, which are now at the rate of ten dollars when the slave is delivered up, and only five when he is liberated from custody. Congress, by this compromise, would be deprived of the power to abolish the inter-State slave trade, or slavery in the Southern arsenals and dockyards and in the district of Columbia; but, we presume, as a *quid pro quo*, it provides for the perpetual abolition of the African slave trade. Seeing that that nefarious traffic is already declared piracy by the law of the United States, one fails to perceive any concession to Northern sentiment in this part of the proposal. Mr. Hale, of New Hampshire, has submitted the scheme to a caucus of Republican representatives; but they rejected it with great unanimity.

President Buchanan's promised message to Congress throws the responsibility on that body, to whom he suggests the Missouri compromise. At the same time we are informed that Mr. Seward, the avowed enemy to all compromise, has accepted the post of Premier under Mr. Lincoln. Mr. Thompson, the Secretary of the Interior, had resigned.

The correspondence between the South Carolina commissioners and the President of the United States has been published in extenso. On the second communication there is the following indorsement:—"This paper, just presented to the President, is of such a character that he declines to receive it."

The New York State has offered the whole state force for the general Government.

INDIA.

We have intelligence by the overland mail from Bombay to Dec. 27. The native traders, after six weeks' suspension, had resumed their dealings. The collection of the income tax had commenced, and so far had proceeded quietly. A grant of half a million to the Mysore Princes has met with strong opposition on all sides, and in the Legislative Council had excited great indignation.

The *Bombay Gazette* has the following:—

There have been rumours in Bombay for at least a month past of a scandalous breach of discipline by some soldiers of Lord Clyde's pet regiment, the 93rd, who are said, as the story generally goes, to have pelleted their officers out of the camp with their tin pots. We should not have noticed the matter had not an allusion been made to it in a Kurrachee paper, for it is not safe to believe much that one hears, and no official notice has yet been taken of the alleged act of mutiny. Our Kurrachee contemporary now states that two officers of the regiment have been removed on account of the affair.

The latest phase of the Sikkim question is that 400 Europeans of her Majesty's 6th had been detached from Barrackpore for Darjeeling. Two hundred and ninety Sikh and Goorkas of the police had also been sent, and two companies of the 73rd from Julpigoree; and with this "strong force," we are told, it is proposed to "reoccupy Sikkim."

There are, it seems, two other petty expeditions on foot to operate against certain tribes on our extreme Eastern frontier; one, commanded by Lieutenant Morton, to operate against the Garrows, a wild race near the Cossya hills; the other, under Captain Raban, to proceed into the Tipperah Hills, to punish the barbarians in that quarter. What is the offence of the people of these remote wilds we are not as yet in a position to state, but we gather from a despatch from Captain J. R. Magrath, Superintendent of Hill Tribes, to the Secretary to the Bengal Government, that the family failing of kidnapping is amongst the delinquencies charged against them.

HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF THE MYSORE GRANT.

On this head the *Morning Post* has the following:—

Upon the fall of Seringapatam the territories of Tippee Sultan lay at the disposal of the confederated Powers which had achieved the conquest. These were the British Government and the Nizam. Between these Powers a treaty was concluded in 1799, called the Treaty of Seringapatam, by the provisions of which, after the reserve of territory for the restored Rajah of Mysore, the remaining districts were equally divided between the East India Company and the Nizam—the East India Company taking districts which yielded *cantaria* pagodas 5,37,000, and the Nizam districts yielding 5,37,332. In addition to these allotments the East India Company received districts yielding *cantaria* pagodas 2,40,000 (equal to 7,60,000 *rupees*), under the condition of providing "a suitable maintenance" to the families of Tippee Sultan and Hyder Ali Khan. The Nizam further obtained territory yielding 70,000 *cantaria* pagodas as the personal jagur of Kurnooddeen Khan.

The British Government removed the families of Hyder Ali and of Tippee Sultan, in the first instance, to Vellore, and for some years provided for their wants at an expenditure equaling, or nearly equaling, the revenue so obtained. At Vellore, in 1806-7, occurred the mutiny of Madras sepoy regiments, which was suppressed by the energy and courage of Colonel Gillespie. The mutinous sepoys brought out one of the sons of Tippee Sultan and acted in his name; but there was no previous concert established against that one, nor were any other members of the family concerned in any way, or even suspected. Consequently, however, upon this event it was resolved to bring the families of both Hyder Ali and Tippee round to Calcutta, and they were accordingly located in a suburb of Calcutta, under the superintendence of a Government officer, stipends being assigned to each head of a family, in the expenditure of which he was left uncontrolled. Upon the decease of each stipendiary the Government reserved to itself the right of making a fresh allotment. There were originally twelve sons of Tippee Sultan, and two sons of Hyder Ali. One only of the former now survives, the Prince Gholam Mohammed, who so recently visited England. There are twenty-two grandsons, however, who are now heads of families, besides

a great many great-grandchildren, all of whom are in the receipt of stipends, and the total annual payment is between £50,000 and £60,000. It has never equalled the amount of revenue obtained for the purpose of enabling the Government to make provision for those families, and for many years the balance was carried on an account, under the head of the "Mysore Family Fund," until it had accumulated to upwards of half a million sterling.

Lord Dalhousie, who viewed with a very jealous eye all appropriations of revenue made for the benefit of the families of the old Sovereigns of India, took into consideration the special position of the members of this family, and came to the conclusion that they had no permanent claim, but that the stipends and provisions granted were little better than eleemosynary and gratuitous payments which the Government was at liberty to deal with at pleasure. The words of the treaty of Seringapatam were as follows:—

"The East India Company engages to provide effectually out of the revenues of the said districts for the suitable maintenance of the whole of the families of the late Hyder Ali Khan and of the late Tippee Sultan." Lord Dalhousie argued that individual members of these families could derive no rights under this treaty, because they were in no way parties to it, the treaty being an engagement between the Nizam and the British Government, and not with Tippee or any member of his family. It is wonderful that a man of Lord Dalhousie's strong good sense should have advanced such a ground. It was not accepted by the authorities in England. Another argument was, that whatever rights accrued under the treaty could attach only to living members of the two families, and not to their descendants. He proposed, in consequence, to give no stipends beyond the fourth generation, but this also was not approved. Lastly, he maintained that, owing to the participation of Moizooddeen in the Vellore mutiny, all claim of right was forfeited by every member of the family. This ground also was not considered tenable; the proceedings of Lord Minto, when he settled the arrangements for the family at Calcutta, being quite inconsistent with it. Thus the family were felt to have a claim in perpetuity to be maintained by the British Government; and this perpetuation of a race of stipendiaries, living in a separate community, with no profession or employment, was felt to be an evil which it was desirable on all accounts to remedy.

The question was taken up when Prince Gholam Mohammed was in England; and, at the recommendation of a committee of the Indian Council, Sir Charles adopted a scheme for capitalising a proportion of the stipends of each of the heads of families, and by giving the amount to them in the shape of stock on the terms of an existing loan, to induce them to relinquish all prospective right to stipends for their descendants. The scheme was accepted by Gholam Mohammed on behalf of the members of the family, and they have since confirmed his act. The extravagance complained of by the people of Calcutta is this assignment of value in consideration of this relinquishment of prospective claims. It is given in the shape of a creation of debt, and not as a money payment from the cash balances, so cannot be said to be paid out of the receipts of the Crown or of any other present tax.

Let us see, now, what will be the effect. There will be a creation of stock representing an annual payment of two-thirds of the existing stipends. The heads of families will get that stock for improvement of their present incomes. Each grandson will therefore receive 1000 *rupees* per annum, instead of 600, as at present. Upon his death, however, and all those grandsons are more than fifty years of age, the State will save the entire stipend of 600, renewing no portion to any children or dependents. When all the heads of families, therefore, have died, the total payment from the Treasury, assuming as much as half a million to be the amount capitalised, which it is not, would still be only 1 per cent on this amount, or two lacs of *rupees*, instead of between five and six lacs as at present paid annually in stipends. The seven lacs of assigned land revenue would then be the clear income of the Government, with no claim upon it except the payment of this interest.

ITALIAN AFFAIRS.

On the morning of the 19th the Piedmontese General announced to the defenders of Gaeta the conclusion of the armistice, at the same time offering conditions of surrender. These conditions were rejected, and the bombardment was recommenced on Tuesday, when the batteries of the garrison unexpectedly opened fire upon the Sardinians, who were actively engaged in working at their new batteries. The fire from the place was very heavy, but the Sardinians replied promptly, and it is stated with much effect. Meanwhile the blockade of the bay is being rigorously carried out. The Sardinian fleet placed itself in line at twelve o'clock on Tuesday, and fourteen vessels are now stationed before Gaeta. The crisis of this portion of the Italian struggle cannot, under any circumstances, be long deferred.

The Russian and Prussian Ministers have quitted Gaeta for Rome. The Nuncio of the Holy See, and the Ministers of Austria, Spain, Saxony, Bavaria, and Portugal, however, remain. These latter, the *Moniteur* remarks, must have been aware of the intention of Francis II. to continue his resistance.

Letters, dated the 15th, state that several thousand Bourbons, under the command of General Lovera, had penetrated the Abruzzi, and, with superior numbers, attacked the Italian troops at Tagliacozzo, defeating and obliging them to retire on Avezzano. The Sardinian Government, on the other hand, determined to crush the insurgents, are pushing forward large reinforcements, and have already succeeded in suppressing the movements in the districts round Ascoli, and it is asserted, have defeated the band that took Tagliacozzo. A column of 2000 Sardinians had disembarked at Civita Nova, and were marching on the province of Teramo. Numerous arrests have also been made in the city of Naples, and many Royalist officers dismissed.

Admiral Barbier de Tinan has prevented the departure from Gaeta of a steamer laden with cannon and soldiers, destined to aid the reactionary movement in Calabria.

Prince Carignan has already formed his council of Lieutenantcy. He had the advice and co-operation of Poerio in the task. The appointments are—Liberio Romano, Councillor of the Interior and of Agriculture; D'Aosse, Justice; Spaventa, Police; Laterza, Finance; Imbrani, Public Instruction; Mancini, Ecclesiastical Affairs; Oberti, Public Works. A finance committee has been appointed, under the presidency of Signor Manna.

Some arrests have taken place at Rome on account of a political demonstration in the Apollo theatre. A portion of the population of Gaeta has arrived here.

GARIBALDI'S MOVEMENTS.

A letter from Turin, in the *Times* (dated the 20th) communicates the important information that Garibaldi has yielded to the request of the King to postpone action until the whole nation, through its Parliament, gives its consent:—

General Turr has come back from Caprera, and there is, of course, no end to the conjectures as to the motives and results of his journey. His ostensible message was the presentation of some glittering trinkets, the gift of the "One Thousand" who landed at Marsala, to their leader, Garibaldi, and of King Victor Emmanuel to the hero's daughter. A more honourable man could not have been chosen for so honourable a mission. The gallant and amiable Hungarian is equally trusted by all patriotic parties, and enjoys the confidence no less of the King than of the chiefs of the Opposition to the King's Government. If there was any subject on which Victor Emmanuel would be anxious to convey his mind to the late Dictator of the Two Sicilies, it was the one connected with the contemplated campaign of next spring. Turr was, it is said, charged with impressing Garibaldi with the necessity of not acting without the full co-operation of the Italian nation, and of the men guiding its destinies, and he brought back the answer that Garibaldi "would not act without the King's full consent" (*non agirebbe in disaccordo col Re*).

Another account says that Garibaldi, in his reply to Turr, said he should count upon them when Italy should carry to Hungary the aid of her arms, as he had sworn upon the grave of the gallant Hungarians who died for Italy that the Italians, as was their duty, would replace them.

ELOQUENCE REWARDED.—A Naples letter says:—"A priest named Clason was amusing himself, while preaching for two Sundays back in the church of the Jesuits, by making political allusions, in which he compared Victor Emmanuel to Herod and Francis II. to Christ in the massacre of the innocents. He was agreeably surprised the other day to see at the feet of his chair a bourgeois muffled up, and apparently very devoutly listening to his words in a kneeling posture, and at some paces' distance half a dozen of carbiners, who seemed deeply touched by his moving sermon. When the preacher had finished the bourgeois and the carbiners approached him, and the former, opening his cloak, showed him a crimson scarf, while the others laid their hands, *coram populo*, upon his collar. No one breathed a word, and M. Clason meditates at this moment on scraps of eloquence in the custody of the prefect of police."

ENGLAND AND DENMARK.

The *Greuzboten*, a journal published on the Prussian borders, near Schleswig-Holstein, contains the despatch addressed by Lord John Russell to Mr. Paget, British Minister at Copenhagen, on the 8th ult.:

Sir,—Inclosed I send you the copy of a despatch from Baron von Schleinitz to Count Bernstorff, and the answer which I have sent thereto to Mr. Lowther. You will observe that, in this despatch, I have indicated the obligations which, according to the views of her Majesty's Government, the King of Denmark is bound in honour to fulfil. I have said—"He is bound not to incorporate Schleswig in Denmark, to maintain the representative States of Schleswig, as well as to protect the German and Danish nationality in the Duchy of Schleswig."

Whatever the legal value of the obligations towards Austria and Prussia may be, the Government of her Majesty has no doubt that the King of Denmark is bound in honour to fulfil those relations. He has publicly proclaimed them; and he has made known not only to his subjects but to the representatives of foreign Powers that their fulfilment is not only his duty but his interest.

His German subjects should perceive that under his rule they stand in the same legal right as other Danish fellow-citizens. They will then possess the feeling of a loyal dependence on the Danish Government, and the upright wish to maintain it undiminished. If, however, in opposition thereto, the education of their children in the public schools, and their religious worship, are denied to them by vexatious regulations—if the Government appears possessed of the wish to oppress the nationality of their subjects of German birth—there can only evil consequences arise. Should the German Diet endeavour to carry out with force their resolutions of last March, as surely the neighbouring Duchy of Schleswig will become the scene of agitation, perhaps of disturbances and insurrection. Then the King of Denmark would himself make known the value of such conditions on the Schleswig people, and he might in their eyes be suspected of a breach of faith, and might be open to the charge of having led an intelligent and industrious portion of his subjects into an odious and insubordinate position.

Read this despatch in connection with the one addressed to Mr. Lowther to M. Hall, and leave a copy with him.

The Mr. Lowther alluded to was the British representative at Berlin during the absence of Lord Bloomfield, and to that gentleman his Lordship also addressed a despatch on the same day, but this is not given in a complete form. It, however, is stated to express Lord J. Russell's opinion respecting the rights of Germany in respect of Denmark.

The *Berlingske Tidende* gives a verbal note of M. Hall, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, with regard Schleswig, which he had handed to Mr. Paget, the British Minister at Copenhagen, who, as instructed by Lord John Russell, had suggested that the British Government might usefully act as mediators at Berlin in this quarrel. In that note M. Hall says:—

His Majesty's Government cannot and will not enter into negotiations on the internal affairs of Schleswig. Has his Majesty in the negotiations of 1851 renounced his right of incorporating this non-German province in the kingdom proper, and allowed it to retain a special legislative representation and administration in all provincial concerns? Well, this declaration, or, as Prussia insists, these promises, have been faithfully and entirely fulfilled. The more his Majesty's Government evinces its moderation by undertaking heavy burdens as to Holstein, so as to conciliate the Frankfort Diet, the more is it entitled to expect that Germany will, as regards Schleswig, give up all interference which would exclude the possibility of ever coming to an agreement. This, in fact, is an absolute condition on which the concessions which the Danish Government will make to Holstein must completely depend. Taught by bitter experience, and anxious to avoid sowing the seeds of ever-recurring conflict with Germany, the Danish Government cannot furnish Germany even with elucidations on such modification as it might be willing to make on some points of the administration of Schleswig; but, while his Majesty's Government is determined to maintain this principle as to Germany, it may be disposed to follow another course in its relations with England; and his Majesty's Government would therefore accept the invitation of that State to explain confidentially its intentions with regard to certain questions of an internal nature in Schleswig, and as to some modifications which will take place there as soon as the position of Holstein has been regulated in the manner indicated, and Germany has ceased to keep up the agitation.

The British Government, it is understood, brought these words of the Danish Minister for Foreign Affairs under the notice of the Prussian Government. In the reply of M. von Schleinitz the following passage as to Schleswig occurs:—

We need not examine the proposed measures, being convinced that the conditions on which they are based are entirely unacceptable to the German Confederation. No right of intervention is thereby allowed to the German Confederation in the affairs of Schleswig, and all concessions to the same are to be exclusively understood as emanating from the free will of the Danish Government, and are not made in acknowledgment of the authority of the Confederation as to Schleswig. To this the Confederation will never give its consent.

SARDINIAN POLICY.

As article in the *Opinione*, the semi official organ of the Sardinian Government, has created a great sensation throughout the whole of Italy, from its being supposed to indicate the decided stand which Count Cavour and his colleagues are resolved to make against the war policy of Garibaldi:—

We have already remarked that it is impossible to foretell what may happen in the course of a few months. But, in looking at the present condition of Italy in relation to Austria, it appears to us wholly inopportune to speak of war against Austria one or two months hence.

Italy ought to strive to place herself in a position of working out the national deliverance by means of her own resources. This is the best means of preserving the Anglo-French alliance and of tranquillising the fears of Europe; for it is notorious that the aversion displayed by several Cabinets to another war in Italy, and the alarm excited by the Venetian question are caused by the fear of a new French intervention.

If Italy possessed an army sufficiently organised and strong, and were in a condition favourable for a war, we believe that Europe would not be so much opposed to it; for Europe also must be anxious to hasten the solution of the Italian question.

But shall we then find ourselves in two months in a condition such as would justify our commencing a war with a probability of success? Do we, then, risk nothing in thus seeking to hasten the day of the combat? Should we not, in delaying it, be increasing the probabilities already in our favour? All Italians have at heart the deliverance of Venice. The woes of the "Queen of the Adriatic" are felt not merely by Italy but by Europe. No cause has awakened so many and such keen sympathies as the cause of Venice. We should not, however, on that account be the less culpable if, through our rashness, we should render the condition of Venice even worse, and should hazard all the advantages which we have already secured.

It is important that Italy should examine and should understand her real situation. It is possible that, in the event of a war with Austria, we should come off victorious; but if by delay we increase our strength, it is certain that to precipitate events can only do us harm.

The Cabinet, for its part, ought to estimate accurately the means at its disposal, and to enter on such a path as may obviate all uncertainty. In the very serious conditions in which we now are it is necessary that the Ministry should tranquillise those who are afraid of its being unable to resist the pressure of the party which calls for war at all hazards, and should warn this party of its resolution to oppose whatever attempts may be made to force on a too daring policy.

The war party is agreed with us in its principles; it recognises, like us, Victor Emmanuel as the head of Italy; but it is necessary that this recognition should not be contradicted by the fact that Victor Emmanuel is King of Italy, and as King he alone has the right to declare war. It would be ridiculous for any one individual to profess obedience to the head of the nation, and then to substitute himself for that head by provoking a war, and by involving the nation in dangers which the King wished to avoid.

We must not allow ourselves to be misled by conspirators between quite dissimilar matters. The ease with which Sicily and Naples were freed from the Bourbon tyranny does not justify the hypothesis of an easy conquest of Venice. If the Sicilian expedition be drawn into the argument it will only have the effect of proving that the means employed in Sicily are of no avail against Austria. The fatigues and labours undergone by our soldiers beneath the walls of Gaeta allow us to foresee what we should have to endure beneath the fortress of Verona and of Mantua.

The obstacles presented by the Austrian fortresses are not insuperable for a nation united, concordant, and determined to make every sacrifice of blood and of money to overcome them. But we must not deceive ourselves, not believe that the presence of hands of volunteers will suffice to chase away the Austrians, and to shake down the walls of the fortresses. The means must be proportioned to the difficulties, and to the power of the nation. Until these means shall all be brought together, any attempt would be extremely hazardous. The partisans of a war in the coming spring are neither blind nor senseless; they cannot hope to succeed by the help of mere enthusiasm and by irregular bands; and therefore they are endea-

vouring to force the head of the nation, and to drive it into a war against its will.

We trust, therefore, that the electors will take to heart these considerations. When they shall have done their duty, it will then be the duty of the Ministry to remember that the responsibility of subsequent events weighs upon it. Italy and Europe will call it to account for the manner in which that responsibility has been discharged.

THE RETURN OF THE BRITISH LEGION TO ENGLAND.

MR. LANDOR PRAED, writing to the *Daily News*, gives an account of the landing of some 250 men of the British Legion at London-bridge on the 15th:—"A considerable portion of the men were fundless; many were in possession but of the scantiest attire, and had made a sharp acquaintance with the frost on the way. A communication from Colonel Peard to the Garibaldi Special Fund Committee, a short time ago, stated that he had then expectations of being able to send these volunteers home by the Euphrates, which would land those for the north of England at Liverpool, convey the Scottish portion to Glasgow, and the Irish to some port in their own country. But when the men found themselves all disembarked at London-bridge they had very confused notions as to how they should get to their respective homes. Some had been paid off three weeks before leaving Naples, and the opportunity that afforded them of getting rid of their 160 francs had rarely been neglected, and not a few entered the Fieramosca utterly free of all financial cares.

"At Genoa they appear to have received four francs for rations during their four days' journey overland; a sum which bore no proportion to English appetites; and the majority of them ate up their wealth long before they reached Paris. All the men spoke well of their treatment through the French territory. The French railway officials, and all the agents with whom they came in contact, paid the kindest attentions to the helplessness of their language and the stout vacuity of their stomachs; and at the various refreshment stages it was frequently said, 'Oh, give them double rations; they are English.' The digestive reputation of our countrymen stands high in France.

"Arrived at London-bridge, a detachment of sixty made their way to Mr. Ashurst's, Old Jewry, some of them having been told by Mr. M'Adam that the Garibaldi Special Fund Committee would see to their railway wants. Unfortunately that committee had no funds for this purpose adequate to the occasion. No one expecting such an arrival in London as the freight of the Fieramosca, no preparation had been made to meet it. Old Jewry being blocked up by red-shirts, Mr. Holyoake gave them shelter in his house in Fleet street until the large room there was crowded out, and the poor fellows were obliged to be defiled into Salisbury-square. There was no choice but to tell the men that their claim to be sent home was against the Sardinian Government. The men alleged that they were told when they set out that they were being sent home; and the Newcastle-on-Tyne men, the Scotch and the Irish, naturally persisted that London was not their home. That portion of the men who were paid off on the day of their departure from Naples had funds upon them, and were able to take time to meditate upon their situation; but some of Wyndham's Zouaves, who were hungry, cold, and some of them groggy, found their way to Park-lane, to the Sardinian Minister's, in an impetuous frame of mind very unsuited to the sylvan habits of that quarter of London; while other men of Forbes' Brigade made a descent on the Sardinian Consul's office in the City, and threatened "to punch somebody's head" if anybody could be found willing to submit to the operation. But while this was going on the Marquis d'Azeglio had been more considerate of their position than they were aware. He had communicated with Turin on their behalf. The next day Mr. Craufurd, the chairman of the Garibaldi Special Fund Committee, received a note from the Sardinian Embassy, informing him that the Sardinian Government would transmit Garibaldi's soldiers to their homes. In reply to the inquiry from the Embassy in London Count Cavour had at once telegraphed orders to this effect. A conference was at once held at the Sardinian Consul's, at which Count Corti, the Secretary of the Sardinian Embassy; Mr. Heath, the Consul; Mr. Craufurd, M.P.; the acting Secretary of the Garibaldi Special Fund, and Mr. Ashurst's Secretary attended, when Count Corti intrusted to the Special Fund Committee the necessary arrangements for giving effect to the intentions of the Sardinian Government, which arrangements included the gathering the dispersed legionists, identifying them, verifying their papers, determining (within certain limits) the aid to be given them, and the destinations where they were entitled to be forwarded; and upon the order of the committee being presented at the Sardinian Consul's each man received a railway pass, and most of them five shillings for rations on their journey. Forty or fifty of the Scottish company were first dispatched. With an honourable prudence they had mostly husbanded their funds; and few required ration-money on their way. Cabs were supplied to bring up the wounded to Salisbury-street, where the Garibaldi Special Fund Committee saw and gave their certificates to the men. One poor fellow, struck by a shell in the foot, was in a deplorable state of suffering. Sergeant Clark was among them, who was shot through the head with a bullet. A thoroughfare was opened through his brains, but Nature brought into operation some miraculous or unexpected inclosure act of hers, and he has survived. All the wounded and disabled were sent as first-class passengers, whether to Liverpool, Glasgow, or Belfast; and two comrades were sent with each wounded man, also first class, to attend to him.

Ten shillings for rations or comforts were allowed the wounded for the night, and money for cabs for use on arrival at their destination. With the wounded who went northward Dr. Fairly was franked to Liverpool to attend to them.

"The Zouaves, evidently all the world over, regard the appropriation as one of the lighter graces of fighting. While the acting secretary of the Garibaldi Fund Committee was engaged giving money and orders to the men, one of the Zouaves employed himself in carrying away the overcoat, gloves, shawl, and handkerchief of that assiduous functionary, who had at night to depart coatless in a cab, and seek a new outfit. Possibly it was abstracted by some poor devil whose shirless rheumatic shoulders had sadly twitched under the deck blasts on his passage home. Captain Drury reports that he found one fellow, whose lot was to sleep on the deck of the *Melazzo*, actually without any shirt, and he supplied him with one of his own, and other clothing. Another man on board the *Fieramosca*, who found his shirt more animated than he could endure, took it off and dashed it into the sea. When too late, he remembered that it contained also his discharge-paper and all his stock of money. The destitution of some men was painful, in some cases honourable, in others ludicrous. Several men had lost knapsacks, blankets, and swords, by leaving them in charge of some one while they aided on board a disabled comrade. Others were left behind through generous delays of the same nature, and had to pay, or beg, or borrow their way home. Now and then it appeared that some men could not appear at Salisbury-street, being in pledge at some coffeehouse in London for food for which they could not pay. One man could not appear because he was confined to his bed in his shirt—every garment being pledged for food or beer, and he had to be rigged out and redeemed. The committee supplied money to the many men to redeem their trophies—Capuan swords and other relics of their campaign—held as sureties by lodging-housekeepers who had befriended them in their ravenous and penniless state."

REVOLVERS IN THE FRENCH ARMY.—The *Mémorial de la Loire*, a St. Etienne journal, says:—"We learn from a good source that it is proposed at this moment to give the whole French army six-barrelled revolvers. The infantry would carry this terrible weapon attached to the belt by an iron hook, the cavalry in the right holster of the saddle."

IRELAND.

DR. CULLEN ON THE LATE PAPAL ALLOCATION.—A letter from Dr. Cullen, recommending this document to the attention of his clergy and laity, was read from the altars of Dublin on Sunday. He begins his epistle by a reference to the persecutions in the East, and then suggests an analogy between the sufferings of the "brethren" in Syria and their co-religionists in Italy. Convents, monasteries, and colleges have been suppressed, he says, in Italy; illustrious Cardinals have been banished; infidel, or Protestant, schools have been opened; immoral books or obscene pictures scattered everywhere; and churches built for Catholic worship handed over to Protestants, just as St. Patrick's Cathedral and Christ Church, in Dublin, have been delivered up to the followers of the so-called Reformation.

MR. DAWSON, M.P., AND THE ORANGEMEN.—The city of Londonderry was yesterday week the scene of one of the most disgraceful displays in the annals of Irish Orangeism or the 'prentice boys of Derry. Some time ago Robert Peel Dawson, Esq., one of the members for the county, consented to deliver a lecture to the members of the Londonderry Mechanics' Institute. It happened, however, that, at the time of the Derrymach affray, the hon. member, in his place in Parliament, strongly condemned the proceedings of the Orangemen, and deprecated the continuance of the July displays, which had resulted in so much outrage and bloodshed. In consequence of this it is said the 'prentice boys and Orangemen of Derry expressed the bitterest feeling against Mr. Dawson, and threatened that if he came to deliver his promised lecture they would give him a reception on the model of that accorded on a recent occasion to the Bishop of Down and Connor by the Belfast "brethren." They kept their word on Friday week, for such was the organised opposition on the part of the crowd who filled the building that, though there was a body of some twenty-five of the constabulary present, Mr. Dawson was unable to deliver his lecture, and barely escaped personal violence.

A PRUSSIAN AND AUSTRIAN ALLIANCE.—The *Augsburg Gazette* again states that a treaty between Prussia, Austria, and Russia guarantees to Austria the possession of Venetia. The *Debats*, while doubting this assertion, observes that very intimate relations exist between Austria and Prussia. In order, it is said, to secure the co-operation of Prussia in the Venetian matter, Austria will follow the Prussian policy with regard to Schleswig; she will recall from Cassel her Charge d'Affaires, who has compromised himself for the Elector, and will name another diplomatist who will support the partisans of the Constitution of 1831; she will adopt the Prussian plans concerning the reorganisation of the Federal army; and will even push her concession so far as to leave Prussia, if necessary, the supreme command of that army.

THE PROVINCES.

STRANGE POISONING CASE IN NORFOLK.—A mysterious case of poisoning has happened at Diss, Norfolk. A day or two since Albert, the youngest son of Mr. R. Aldrich, a resident in the town, was taken suddenly ill and died in a few hours, after suffering dreadful convulsions. After death the body of the child swelled considerably, and as two other children in the family were attacked with similar symptoms, the suspicions of the medical gentleman called in were aroused. An examination was made of the contents of the deceased child, and a careful examination of the contents of the stomach, &c., showed that a very powerful poison had been administered or taken in sufficient quantity to cause death. The other children attacked are recovering, and nothing has yet been elicited in explanation of the affair. Some sweetmeats which the children had in their possession have been examined, but nothing of a deadly nature can be detected in them.

CRUELTY BY A SCHOOLMASTER.—A Leeds schoolmaster—Purchon by name—was charged before the magistrates at the Townhall, Leeds, on Saturday, with an aggravated assault on a boy nine years old, named Warrington. The boy had been examined by a surgeon, who said that he found the boy had been severely beaten over the back and shoulders, and was covered with contused wounds. The beating had been very severe, and though he could not speak positively, he fancied there had been twelve or fifteen blows struck. The magistrates afterwards examined the boy himself, and committed the schoolmaster—whose only excuse for his conduct was that the boy had laughed at him—for two months' imprisonment.

THE PRINCE OF WALES AT CAMBRIDGE.—The Prince of Wales arrived at Cambridge yesterday week. There was a total absence of any official demonstration on the part of either University or town, in accordance with the expressed wish of the Prince. The time of his arrival got wind, however, and some thousands of the townspeople crowded the windows of the houses and the footpaths on the line of route, the numbers of the fair sex predominating in the ratio of about two to one. Such of the inhabitants as were in possession of flags exhibited them.

THE RIGHT HON. W. COWPER, M.P., ON SCHOOLS OF ART.—A crowded meeting was held yesterday week in the Townhall, Hertford, under the presidency of the Mayor, to consider the propriety of establishing a school of art for Hertford and its neighbourhood, in connection with the Committee of Council on Education. The Right Hon. W. Cowper, in moving a resolution in favour of the establishment of a school of art at Hertford, said most of the large towns in the country had such schools. The Government, by the establishment of an Education Department, might be considered the founder of this branch of instruction, which it had very much fostered, with the view of giving a sound education in art to the community at large and especially with a view to the improvement of our manufactures in the great seats of manufacture and industry. For a considerable number of years schools of art have been established, and the number in England at the present time is eighty-four. There were three classes of persons who were interested in receiving instruction from a drawing-master. First, the artisan, who would attend in the evening, and who, for the small payment of 2s. per month, might obtain a very useful training in drawing. Secondly, there were the children belonging to the National and British schools, who learned a mere elementary sort of drawing. And, then, there were private pupils, persons of both sexes, who might attend morning classes, and who would not form a portion of the school. The resolution was adopted, and, on the motion of Sir M. Farquhar, M.P., a subscription was entered into to defray the preliminary expenses of establishing the institution.

A FACTORY OPERATIVE'S LEGACIES.—The *Stockport Advertiser* says that a factory operative named William Smith, late of Wellington-road South, in that borough, has left by will, in the shape of legacies, property to the following amount:—£11 to the Stockport Sunday-school; £10 to the Stockport Infirmary; £10 to the Stockport Mechanics' Institution; £10 to the Vernon Park; £10 to the Temperance United Alliance Association; £120 each to two brothers and a sister; and over £700 to his widow.

CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.—The chemists, who number about 15,000, are bestirring themselves to form an association for various objects connected with their interests as a body. With this view a meeting was held Wednesday at the London Coffee-house, when it was agreed to form a society, under the title of the United Society of Chemists and Druggists. It is proposed to establish a benevolent fund, a school for children, a system of early and Sunday closing, together with other schemes, and a committee is appointed to carry them out.

STRANGE MURDER IN ALGERIA.—A murder was recently committed at La Stidia, near Mostaganem, in Algeria, under very singular circumstances, the author of it being a boy named Gillesheim, only eleven years of age. He was in the fields, with some other children, looking after cattle, when he went to a little distance from his companions and collected a heap of dry wood and brambles. He then laid hold of a girl four years old, dragged her to the pile, threw her down on it, and then set fire to it with a chemical match. Her brother came to her assistance, but the young ruffian threatened him with a similar fate if he interfered, telling him that he must tell his parents that the Arabs had carried her off. When he thought his victim was dead he dragged the body off the fire to some little distance, saying, "by to-morrow the jackals will have eaten your body, and nothing more will be seen of you." The other children had in the meantime ran to the village and given an alarm, and the parents of the girl coming to the spot found her still breathing, but she expired in a few hours after. Gillesheim was delivered into the hands of justice.

ARNDT AND THE LATE KING OF PRUSSIA.—The Prussian papers publish a correspondence which has no historic interest. It is that which in 1849 passed between the late Ernst Moritz Arndt, the German patriot and poet (author of the famous ballad, "Where is the German's Fatherland?") and the late King of Prussia, when the latter was urged to accept "the Crown of the Empire of Germany." The refusal of the King is couched in terms peculiarly characteristic; full of vague lamentations over the stormy nature of the impulse given to a democratic movement, full of vague yearnings for an impossible combination of events which might allow him to accept the leadership which, under the circumstances, he could not venture to assume. Very characteristic, too, are the kindly phrases in which he personally addresses the eminent advocate of German unity by whom the correspondence had been initiated.

REDFATH'S BANKRUPTCY.—The name of Leopold Redpath will be remembered in connection with frauds of almost unparalleled magnitude. A dividend meeting under this convict's bankruptcy was held in the Court of Bankruptcy a few days since. It appears that a dividend of 9s. in the pound had already been paid, and that now a further dividend of 2s. is ready. It is possible that the estate will yield a little more.

DEPOSITORY FOR WILLS.—The wills of living persons may be deposited for safe keeping in the principal registry, Doctor's Commons. Envelopes and the necessary forms are to be had on application. With regard to fees, £1 1s. is charged for receiving the will and giving a receipt; 2s. 6d. for a minute of the registry, and 2s. 6d. for filing each will.

THE QUEEN OF NAPLES VISITING THE GAETA FORTS.

A PARAGRAPH has appeared in some Continental journals setting forth a declaration by King Francis II. and his consort that they have determined never to surrender, and that they will be content to die at their enemies' hands if by that the cause of Legitimacy may be served. By this time, indeed, we can scarcely doubt their resolution, whatever we may think of their wisdom. The Queen has all along shown herself a woman of great courage, and it is probable that the pluck (or obstinacy—you are at liberty to choose your word) exhibited so unexpectedly by the King may be not a little due to her Majesty's influence and example. How she goes round the batteries encouraging the soldiers has been often told. We give our readers a Picture illustrative of this judicious temerity.

DEMONSTRATION IN FRONT OF THE CARDINAL ARCHBISHOP'S PALACE AT NAPLES.

OUR readers may remember that, a few weeks ago, we told of a little difficulty in which the Cardinal Archbishop of Naples had found himself. This ecclesiastical potentate, who had returned to the city in accordance with a very urgent invitation from the new Government, took no pains to disguise his discontent at

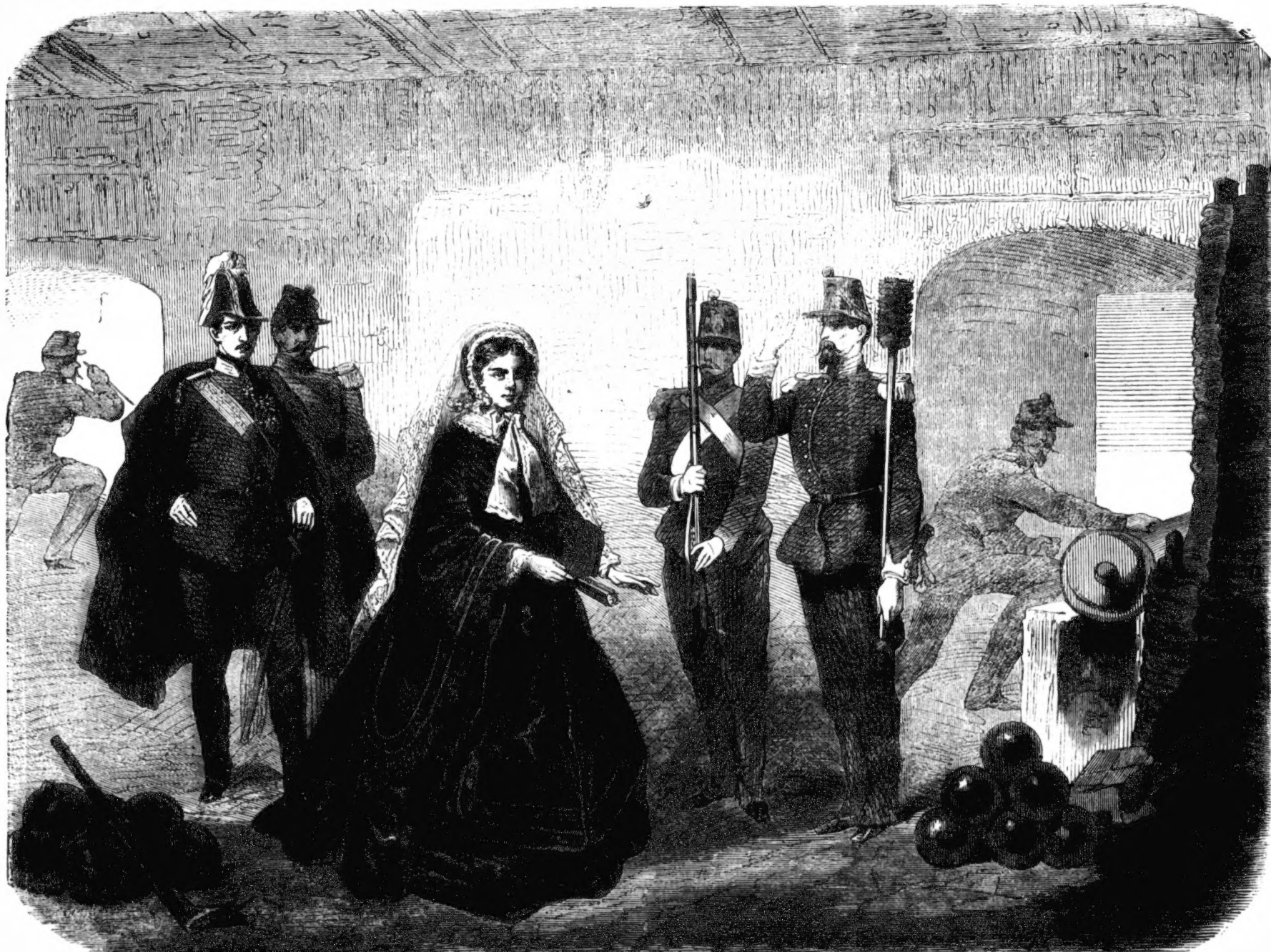


REACTIONARY DEMONSTRATION IN FRONT OF THE ARCHBISHOP'S PALACE AT NAPLES.

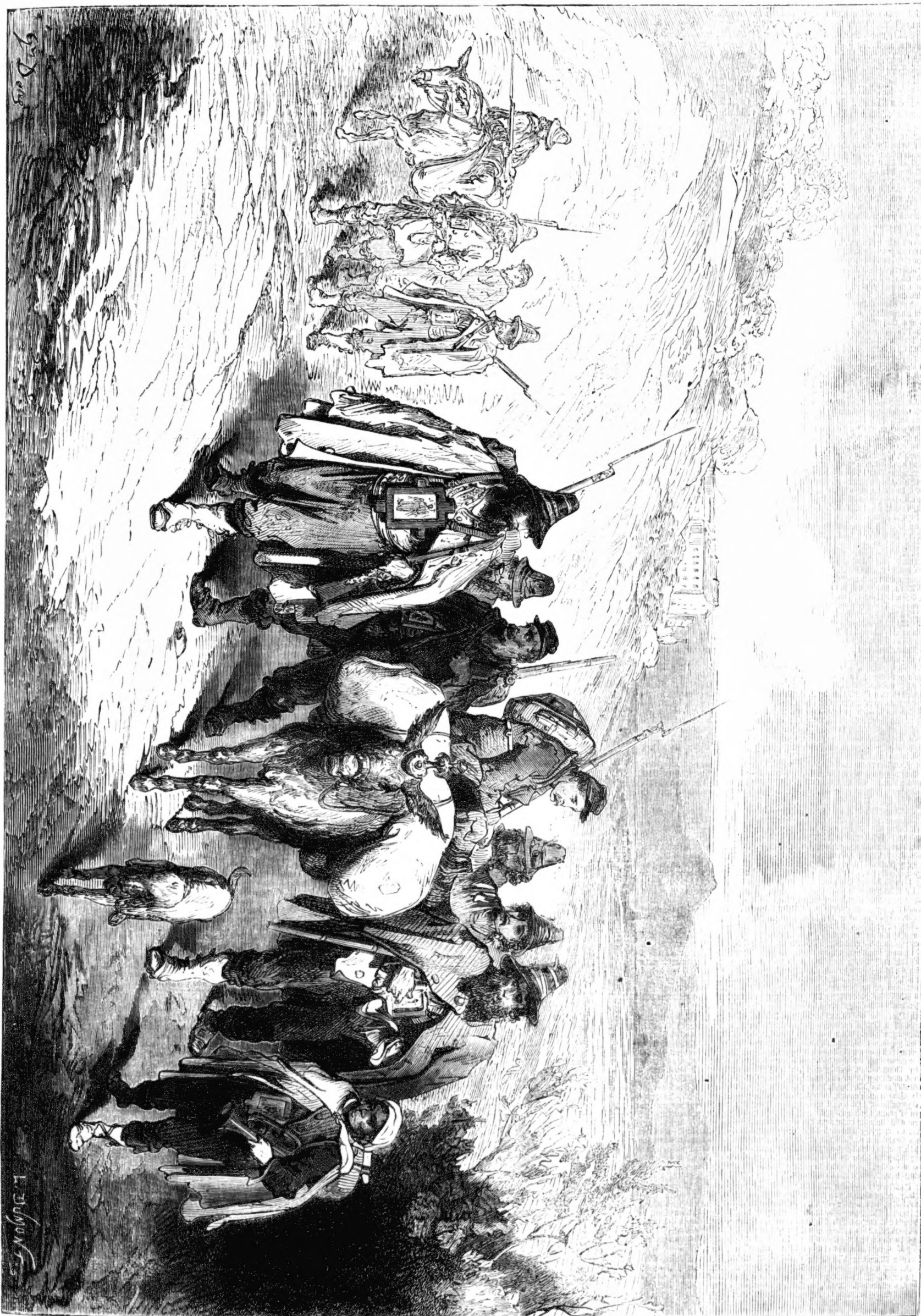
the expulsion of Francis II. This enraged the people. Led by priests, they appeared one day under the palace of the Archbishop demanding his blessing on the flag of Savoy, and insisting that he should hang the tricolour from his windows. The Cardinal positively refused. The mob was in no humour to be trifled with. The Archbishop's obstinacy increased their rage, and they were actively employed in preparations for firing the palace when a detachment of the National Guard arrived. The Guard restrained the violence of the people, but took part against the Archbishop. They finally induced him to hang out a tricolour flag; and, partly appeased, partly alarmed at the appearance of some of the regular troops, the mob dispersed.

DISBANDING OF THE ARMY OF SOUTHERN ITALY.

THE army of Southern Italy has accomplished its task, and the disbanding of the troops is superintended by General Della Rocca who is commissioned, after due inquiries, to send some of them to their homes, with six months pay in advance, while others are being incorporated into the Piedmontese Army. Since this dispersion of the legion the country seems to have lost its most picturesque protectors who, in their strange brigand-like accoutrements and gay display



THE QUEEN OF NAPLES VISITING THE GAETA FORTS



DISBANDMENT OF THE ARMY OF SOUTHERN ITALY.—VOLUNTEERS RETURNING HOME.

of colour, gave one the impression of a sort of operatic effect. There were in their ranks the representatives of several countries—the fair Englishman, with the inevitable parting to his hair; the Hungarian, whose long moustache hangs in a heavy mass, crooked at the ends; the ruddy Polonaise, and the well-known French brave, with the blue silk mounting of his red fez, contrasting with the bronzed face beneath. On the route from Gaeta to Naples may be met the Calabrian volunteers who, having received their pay, return to the homes which they left to serve their country and secure its freedom. Many of them carry pictures of the Virgin fastened to their breasts, and their devotion, as well as their courage, is often recognised by the people of the villages, who give them food or drink upon their march.

COLONIAL RESPONSIBILITIES.

A DESPATCH (dated July 26, 1860) from Sir G. C. Lewis to Governor Gore Browne of New Zealand has been published. Sir George says:—

I must at once say that, in the present position of affairs, and with the demand for troops which exists, or may be expected in other quarters, it is impossible for her Majesty's Government to comply with your desire to receive 3000 or 4000 soldiers in addition to your present force. Measures, however, have been taken to dispatch the 14th Regiment at once for the relief of the 65th, which will be allowed to remain in the colony for the present in case, on the arrival of the 14th, the immediate danger should not have passed over; I trust that it will have passed over; and, if this should prove the case, I cannot but believe that wise government and prudent conduct on the part of the settlers will do far more than an increased military force to maintain the relations between the Europeans and natives on a satisfactory footing.

Meantime I must observe that, although it is the desire of her Majesty's Government to provide fully for the performance of those duties which the mother country owes to her colonies, I cannot silently accept what appears to be the colonial estimate of their responsibilities.

England cannot undertake the defence against a nation of warlike savages, of a number of scattered farms or villages, selected not with any view to such defence, but the profitable pursuit of peaceful industry, and subject to the risks which naturally attend the occupation of land in the midst of an uncivilised population.

Nor can her Majesty's Government undertake to provide such a force as will secure the colonies against prospective difficulties. Immediate and imminent dangers must be met as they arise. But the policy which requires the continual presence of a large force carries in most cases its condemnation on its face.

What is the degree of protection which the inhabitants of a British colony are entitled to expect from the home Government is a matter on which it is impossible to speak in the abstract. It is, no doubt, necessary to punish aggression, to defend the centres of population, to maintain a hold upon the keys of the country. But beyond this the amount of assistance given must depend on the demands to which the military and naval forces of the country are subjected elsewhere, and on the urgency of the case, as shown not merely by demands for assistance, but by the disposition of the colonists to adopt their share of the necessary expenses; to incur for the defence of their neighbours the dangers and inconveniences of personal service, and to place in the hands of the home Government the power of controlling the treatment of those whom they are called upon to subdue.

And I cannot refrain from observing that neither your despatches nor Mr. Richmond's memorandum indicate any definite intention on the part of the colonists to contribute to the expense of the troops whom they demand, that the volunteering appears to be confined to the particular localities threatened, and that Mr. Richmond, while calling upon the home Government to adopt the expenses of the war, does not even hint at the propriety of investing it with any larger power than they at present possess for dealing with the native question out of which these expenses arise.

THE DEFENCES OF GAETA.—The *Moniteur de l'Armée*, a semi-official paper, publishes a letter from Gaeta, in which we have some special facts of more than ordinary interest:—"The fortress of Gaeta has received immense supplies within the last twenty days. All the sick and wounded have, moreover, been sent away, so that all the troops that remain are effective. On the 12th the King, accompanied by the Queen, reviewed the troops. He told them that in a short time the struggle would recommence more warmly than ever. He added that he did not wish any man to serve against his will, and that anybody who wished to quit the fortress was free to do so. I am assured that three officers and 150 men accepted the offer, and quitted Gaeta the following day. There remain 8000 excellent troops, which are more than sufficient for the defence. I have already described the defences on the land side. There are more than 400 guns mounted. The Monte Secco, which performed so important a part during the siege in the year 1806, no longer exists. The Monte Secco was a hill 500 yards from Gaeta, and commanded it. The French under the command of Massena got possession of the hill, established their batteries on it, and captured the fortress. The attack by sea is only practicable from the roads—that is, from a creek on the left of the bay. Such an attack cannot produce such a serious effect as is generally supposed. The sea is always heavy on that coast until the spring. No bombardment is possible except during a profound calm. Again, the anchoring-ground is exposed to the fire of numerous batteries, which must have the advantage over ships, for these, being in motion, cannot fire with the same precision as batteries. The fleet, however, can interrupt the communication with Gaeta, and force it by famine to surrender after a certain time. On the other hand, the Piedmontese, by bringing 150 of their guns on the land side to bear on one part, must inevitably destroy the town."

RIFLED-CANNON PRACTICE.—Another Blakely gun was tried on Thursday week, on the shore at Hightown, by the manufacturers, Messrs. Fawcett, Preston, and Co. Although only a 12-pounder, and weighing only 9 cwt., it threw its shell a distance of 1670 yards with only 4 deg. of elevation, and with marvellous accuracy. A service cast-iron 12-pounder weighs 34 cwt. (more than three times as much as the Blakely gun), and with 4 deg. of elevation only throws its solid shot 1400 yards (270 yards less than the other, requiring also 4 lb. of powder, whereas the Blakely gun only requires 1 lb.). The gun is bought, we understand, by a gentleman who was on the ground. As it has so often been stated that rifled cannon are not good at short ranges, the purchaser determined to test the accuracy of this dictum. After emptying its contents therefrom he put a small hamper on the ground at a quarter of a mile from the gun, to which he gave an elevation of 20 min. only. The very first shot pierced the impromptu target, and such was the velocity of the projectile that it did not touch the ground until it had passed 60 feet beyond, although the hole in the hamper was found not to be more than a foot from the ground. The hamper scarcely moved, although standing on its small end. Some professional artillerymen present—foreigners—were much struck by the circumstance, and remarked that, after all, it might be better to build the bulwarks of a ship very light, and let shot pass easily through both sides into the sea. Half an inch of iron would easily be pierced by 100-pounders, with little more commotion than the basket by the 12-pounder.

AN IRISH PATRIOT ON SLAVERY.—The *Charleston Mercury* (U.S.) enjoys the privilege of a Paris correspondence from John Mitchell, the Irish rebel and pro-slavery writer. In a letter in the *Mercury* of the 4th, to which the editor proudly invites attention, Mitchell says:—"On the whole, I believe, the Southern States need have no apprehension in this present crisis. Whatever course may be deemed most suitable, most dignified, and independent by themselves, boldly and proudly vindicating their own institutions, that course will be sanctioned by the civilised world. The men of white neckcloths in England, the old Saint Simonians and disciples of Anacharsis Clootez in France, may turn up their stupid eyes, but the commercial exigencies of the world will, at least in this one case, sustain the conclusions of plain good sense, as well as of the most genuine philanthropy; and slavery will be recognised as the only rational basis of all communities in countries so happily situated that they can establish themselves on so admirable a foundation. As for those countries which are too far north or too far south for so excellent a system, they must do the best they can; and I trust they may be able to live in some tolerable manner, provided they mind their own business, and not give themselves up to a too envious malignity against more fortunate lands."

FRENCH PAMPHLETS.—The *Moniteur* again denies that the Government is in any way responsible for the political pamphlets which make their appearance daily, and says:—"The Government is invested with no power to prevent the publication of books and pamphlets. It would, therefore, be unjust to render it responsible for senseless theories which the good sense of the public stigmatises as being contrary to the Catholic feelings of the country and to the respect due to the Holy Father, in regard to which the policy of the Emperor has always set an example."

THE BRITISH MUSEUM ANTIQUITIES.—Mr. Hawkins is now retiring from the Keepership of Antiquities at the British Museum. Mr. Birch, as senior officer, will succeed him; but great changes in the administration of this department are expected. The kingdom, now grown so mighty, is likely to be divided into three branches. Egyptian, Assyrian, and Oriental antiquity generally, to remain under Mr. Birch; the cabinets of medals and gems to be placed under Mr. Vaux; while the important domain of Greek and Roman (or classic) antiquities would duly fall to Mr. Oldfield, unless, indeed, some fresh appointment be made by the trustees.

MR. EDWIN JAMES AND HIS CONSTITUENTS.

MR. EDWIN JAMES addressed some 4000 of the inhabitants of Marylebone on Monday. Mr. Williams, M.P. for Lambeth, Mr. Wyld, M.P., and Mr. Gordon Allan were among the gentlemen on the platform; as were also Mr. Nicholay, Mr. D'Ifanger, Mr. Michell, and several others who take part in public affairs within the borough. Alderman Sir James Duke, M.P., was called to the chair. Recapitulating the topics contained in the Queen's Speech on the opening of last Session, Mr. James spoke of the Commercial Treaty:—

He supported that treaty, believing that it was intended to effect, as he trusted it would ultimately do, a firm and lasting alliance between the two countries immediately concerned, though its first results had been to press hard for a time on several branches of our national industry. He could not doubt that in the end the effect of it would be to ally more strongly than ever the great French nation with England by welding together the commercial interests of both, and so securing a guarantee for peace and good-will far more effectual and durable than all the armaments resulting from a prodigious expenditure of public money. It was but due to the Emperor of the French to say that he had made great sacrifices to carry out that treaty, for a restrictive system of trade and commerce had prevailed in France ever since the war terminating in 1815; and he had many prejudices and difficulties to overcome in introducing a change of system.

Adverting next to the subject of Parliamentary reform, Mr. James said:—

He had always complained that last Session it was postponed to the consideration of the Commercial Treaty. He ventured to tell Lord John Russell that the delay in proceeding with the Reform Bill was calculated to jeopardise the measure, and to induce the country to doubt his sincerity. The Commercial Treaty, no doubt, was pressing; but he could see no reason why the Reform Bill and it did not proceed *pari passu*. The Reform Bill at length was introduced, and somebody was pleased to twit him with making a damaging speech against it; but, he ventured to say, a more miserable Reform Bill was never propounded in Parliament, and he would tell them why. If the Government promised the country to concede matters of Parliamentary reform by instalments, then he was ready to accept those instalments as they came, even though they were presented in homoeopathic doses; but, if they said they aimed at a settlement of the question for the next quarter of a century, then he contended that the settlement ought to be a comprehensive one, for otherwise the people were better without it. He contended that the ratebook ought to be the electoral register of England. He had, in his place in Parliament, supported a lodger franchise, and had, above all, urged the repeal of the rate-paying clauses, for it was a mere mockery to give a working man the right to vote and to embarrass and surround its exercise with technicalities. The Reform Bill of Mr. Disraeli, so far as it conferred a lodger franchise, was greatly preferable to that of Lord John Russell, adding, for example, as it would have done, according to a calculation by Mr. Whiteside, no less than 15,000 to the constituency of Marylebone alone. Again, with regard to the redistribution of seats, a bill which placed several of the old Whig borough constituencies with eighty or ninety voters in the same category with the Tower Hamlets and Marylebone could not with any propriety be called a settlement of a great question. It was, in truth, a very small bill. He was present both at its birth and its obsequies, and if he were asked to write its epitaph it would be, "Sacred to the memory of a very little bill, that lived a very little time, and died a very little regretted." Besides, the Government never seemed in earnest about the matter, and the House of Commons was insincere because the country was apathetic. Worse than all, now that it was wholly abortive, the preparation of it, he was told, had cost £2000. His clerk would have drawn a bill as much to the purpose in twenty minutes for a couple of guineas. The Government of Lord Derby staked its existence on its Reform Bill; and he had never been able to understand why the country did not exact of the present Government that it should stake its existence on a Reform Bill, that being the question on which it succeeded or failed.

Mr. James then glanced briefly at the abortive attempts at law reform and the consolidation of the criminal law during the last Session. He adverted to the miscarriage of the Bankruptcy Bill, and to Sir Richard Bethell—than whom, he said in passing, there was not a more ardent law reformer—having been embarrassed by his own Government at every step in his endeavour to carry it through the House of Commons. Alluding to the treatment of the question of the paper duties by the House of Lords, the subsequent excitement in reference to which, he said, "spread like a fire in the prairies," he characterised the resolutions of Lord Palmerston as a pusillanimous mode of dealing with a great question involving the privileges of the House of Commons. Anticipating the coming Session—

Could it be possible, he asked, that the Government who, when in Opposition, turned out that of Lord Derby on the solemn pledge that they would introduce a Reform Bill, intended to meet Parliament with a speech from the Throne utterly ignoring that question? Who, until last Session, ever heard of the House being counted out during a debate on a Reform Bill? He and other members used to retire last Session during the debates on Lord John Russell's Bill to take a cup of tea—and very bad tea it was—when some one would run into the room and say that, unless they returned, the House ran some risk of being counted out. A "count out" on a Reform Bill! Could there possibly be a greater proof that neither the Government nor the country was sincere in the matter? In point of fact, he (Mr. James) hardly knew what "the Liberal party" was. He was taunted with not having attended a meeting of the Liberal party on one occasion during the excitement on the question of the paper duties. He said he was sorry, adding that he knew nothing about the meeting, and that he was sure to get into a scrape with his constituents; but he ventured to ask how many were present. Eleven, he was told. Now, he submitted that the great Liberal party ought not to muster in a wretched tea-room to the number of eleven. But, on the other hand, what were the Conservative party doing? They had great intellect, talent, territorial wealth—all that could give them weight in a popular assembly; but he confessed that, looking to the great events which had occurred since the close of last Session, he was surprised that the great Conservative party should seem to be positively paralysed. Mr. Disraeli, it was true, had spoken out; but upon what subjects? Why, about carrots and church-rates! Had it, then, come to this, that such a wretched fragment of ecclesiastical revenue as church-rates was to be made the cry of the great Conservative party in 1861? But the question of questions to be brought under discussion in the forthcoming Session was that of retrenchment in the public expenditure. His friend, Sir James Duke, had alluded to the memorial on that subject which had been recently presented to the Prime Minister. He did not sign that document. In the first place, he was never asked; and if he had been asked he should have declined; not because he did not sympathise with its object, but because the obvious answer to such a memorial was that the House of Commons had the remedy in its own hands, and that if the sixty gentlemen who signed it attended to their Parliamentary duties with half the constancy and fidelity of his friend Mr. Williams when the Estimates came under discussion, the aim they had in view would gradually be achieved. How were the Estimates passed? He could hardly believe it until he entered the House of Commons. He had sat with about twenty-five or thirty members criticising the Estimates and urging divisions upon them, but they were only laughed at for their pains. The division bell rang; up came a number of members from the smoking-room, or the kitchen, who had not heard a single word of the debate, to vote with the Government; so the Estimates were carried, and his hon. friend Mr. Williams was asked what he had taken by his motion.

After commenting at great length upon the lavish character of the public expenditure and what he conceived to be its causes, Mr. James next spoke of foreign affairs:—

He never believed in the absurd notion of an invasion of England by the Emperor Napoleon. With the distrust of Russia towards him, the jealousy of Prussia, and the fear of him of Austria, the alliance with England was the only support of his throne. He had no fear of any invasion of England; still no man could foresee into what complications the Emperor of the French might drive this country; and our first care was to be prepared, though he would not go so far as to say we should be armed to the teeth. The dream of the French Emperor was of the Rhine; that was the old traditional policy of his race; and what we had to do was to act on the principle of non-intervention, and to see that it was observed by other Powers. Passing on to the subject of the Italian revolution, he said within one year we had seen accomplished there the results of ages. That of which poets had dreamed and for which patriots had signed in their dungeons had been achieved by the glorious and disinterested efforts of one man. Liberty in Italy had been partially accomplished; let us hope that the struggle shall be carried out to its full results; that Rome and Venice will, eventually, form part of a united Italy. The Italians had achieved liberty, and it was a promising indication that already they had begun to feel that liberty must be tempered to some extent by constitutional checks. By one man, in a single year, the country had been freed from the hereditary perjury of the Bourbons; he sat now on his solitary rock at Capri, pluming his pinions for another flight, and that man was Garibaldi.

Mr. James concluded his address with a remonstrance against the occupation of Rome by French soldiers, and by urging the Government to hold steadily on in the path of non-intervention with regard to the Italian federation as the truest policy, and as an example to Continental Powers.

POLITICIANS IN THE PROVINCES.

MR. MERRY, M.P., AT LANARK.

Mr. Merry, M.P. for the Falkirk district of burghs, addressed the electors and non-electors of Lanark in the County Buildings on Friday week. Mr. Merry, in a short address, stated that he had voted for the Reform Bill and the French Treaty, and with the House of Commons against the Lords on the paper-duty question. He said he approved of the volunteer movement, and thought our Army and Navy should be maintained in its present position, and concluded by saying that, though he could not refer his constituents to any speeches he had made, he could refer them to his votes and conduct to show how arduously he had wrought in their service.

MR. LAWSON, AT CARLISLE.

A great meeting was held in Carlisle on Monday in favour of Parliamentary Reform. Mr. Councillor Potter presided. Mr. Lawson, M.P., was present, and said, in the course of his speech:—

I think that this moment, just before the opening of Parliament, is a right moment for meeting together to press upon the Government the importance of settling this great question of Parliamentary Reform. We are, fortunately, living in quiet times. Now is the time to set our house in order; for think of the effect upon this country of two or three bad harvests or the failure of the cotton crop in America! I think no one can look without alarm at the prospect of hundreds of thousands of working men thrown out of employment by such a calamity, when, in addition to the pangs of hunger, they at the same time feel the sense of injustice ranking in their breasts. I do not say it would be right to do so, but we know what human nature is, and at such a time, when four-fifths of the people of this country are excluded from taking any part in what is called self-government, which they suppose is their right, we need not be surprised if they felt disposed to revenge themselves upon the one-fifth who excluded them from that power. I say, then, let us be prepared. Let us make everything secure before the storm comes. As good citizens, I believe we are doing our duty by meeting here to-night to urge upon the Government the settlement of this great question—a settlement which will not tend to set one class against another, as is falsely and foolishly predicted, but, on the contrary, will tend to make all classes live together in a more friendly and harmonious spirit, and I will also, I believe in my conscience, do much to promote peace, prosperity, and contentment in our country.

MR. H. B. SHERIDAN, M.P., AT DUDLEY.

On Tuesday night Mr. Sheridan, M.P., addressed his constituents. There was a considerable amount of excitement in the town and the hon. member was warmly cheered on his way to the place of meeting.

Mr. Sheridan, at great length, reviewed the events of the Session.

The hon. gentleman said that he had supported the French Treaty, believing that the application of its provisions would not only be beneficial to the country at large, but would confer particular benefits upon the district he had the honour of representing, as well as by furthering the general progress of humanity. He paid a high compliment to Mr. Berkeley for his perseverance in so repeatedly having brought the Ballot before the House, and then he referred at great length to the Stipendiary Magistrates Bill. He was decidedly of opinion that the interest of large towns like that of Dudley would be better protected by the appointment of a stipendiary magistrate, who would administer the law without the imputation of being in any way prejudiced by connections, either privately or publicly, with the parties concerned in matters brought before him for his decision. With these views he had proposed a bill, which had passed the Commons last Session, which provided that a stipendiary magistrate should be appointed to towns of 25,000 inhabitants; but the Lords had thrown it out, and thus his object had been defeated. He would, however, take an opportunity of again introducing a similar bill, as he thought its rejection by the Upper House was rather the result of haste than of a deliberate conviction that it was not necessary. Passing on to notice the subject of Reform, Mr. Sheridan said that he voted during the past Session in favour of all questions either directly or collaterally having any bearing upon the subject of Reform. Nowhere probably in the whole world was there a case more directly in point, showing the necessity for an extension of the suffrage, than the borough of Dudley, because there were only something like 1000 voters to 40,000 or 50,000 people. As to the reduction of our national expenditure, the hon. member said that he was not one of those men who thought it would be wise for Government to diminish the Army and Navy just now. He was not one of those men who believed in Napoleon when he said that in consequence of the union of the Great Powers of Europe peace would be maintained. He thought the proper explanation of those remarks of the Emperor would be—"In consequence of the union of the despotic Powers, the liberties of the people would be suppressed." That, however, was not peace. Mr. Sheridan also alluded to American affairs, stating his opinion that the Southern States would be compelled to succumb to the Northern.

FRENCH COMMERCE.—The *Moniteur* has published a number of tabular statements, showing the comparative position of the commerce of France in 1858, 1859, and 1860. The comparison is to the advantage of 1860 in almost all imported merchandise, whether for direct consumption or to be employed as the material of French industry. In general commerce, the articles which presented the greatest increase were coffee, the sugars of French colonies, cocoa, cottons, wool, threads, and linen-stuffs, oleaginous grains, and zinc. The exportation of wines and cereals was less in 1860 than in 1859, but greater than in 1858. Among the articles whose exportation had most developed were machinery and mechanical appliances.

THE HOP DUTIES.—On Saturday afternoon a meeting of influential landowners and hopgrowers was held in the Music Hall, Canterbury, for the promotion of the abolition of the hop duties. Sir Brook Bridges, M.P. for East Kent, presided, and the following motions were agreed to:—"That the total and immediate repeal of the hop duties is essential to the prosperity of the hop-growing districts, and is just both to hop-planters and the public; that this meeting pledges itself to afford its energetic support, by subscriptions and otherwise, to the central association formed to obtain the repeal of the duties; and that petitions should be got up for the same purpose, and distributed for signature in the various parishes."

STARVING A SERVANT GIRL.—Mr. Robert Durne Mitchell, a retired naval surgeon, residing at Henley-on-Thames, was brought before the magistrates a few days since, charged with having caused the death of his servant girl by starvation. The unfortunate young woman, whose name was Clarke, had been removed to the workhouse in a state of extreme debility, where, notwithstanding every care, she soon expired of sheer exhaustion. At a coroner's inquest the jury returned a verdict of "manslaughter" against Mr. Mitchell, guided to this result by the nature of the medical and other evidence. After a lengthened examination by the Bench the prisoner was committed for trial at the ensuing Lent Assizes. Bail to the amount of £100 was accepted for his appearance.

FEARFUL ACCIDENT.—The steamer *Emerald* left Cowes Pier on Saturday, having on board, among other passengers, Captain Barton, of the *Zouave*, R.Y.S. Captain Barton entered into conversation with a gentleman about seamanship, standing at the time amidst the engines, the skylight covering to which was about half open. Turning round somewhat hastily, he staggered and fell back, falling partially on the engine, through the open portion of the skylight. The crank in working over caught Captain Barton, and dragged him through the framing on to the cylinder cover. This was the work of an instant, and the machinery revolving once literally tore the unfortunate man's body to pieces. The remains were gathered together, sewed up in a blanket, and landed at Ryde Pier, where deceased resided.

THE FUGITIVE SLAVE CASE.—In pursuance of the rule obtained in this case last week a messenger of the Court of Queen's Bench proceeded on Saturday from Liverpool by the Cunard steamer for Canada, and Anderson will be brought over, unless it shall so happen that he will be liberated by the Court of Common Pleas in Canada before the messenger shall arrive out.

BARRACK ACCOMMODATION IN EDINBURGH.—A letter in the *Times* gives a very bad account of the accommodation provided for the troops in Edinburgh Castle:—"The married men are stowed away on the ground floor in low, narrow, ill-ventilated rooms, of which the area is equal to twenty feet square, the walls are six feet high, with the ceilings slightly arched towards the centre, and the solitary window, about half the size of an ordinary one, is placed at the end, opening into a corridor. I visited three of these singular apartments, and learnt that each contained three married couples, with from six to ten children, of ages between three months and twelve years. Of the singlemen, a large portion are packed into storehouses, with crazy skylights and stone floors, in numbers so disproportionate to the space that when the beds, which stand close together, are let down at night they overlap each other at the feet, and thus convert the whole surface into a uniform plane, whence the lights being extinguished at nine o'clock, none of the twenty soldiers who form its complement can escape, except by stumbling over the bodies of their sleeping comrades."

Literature.

Garibaldi, and other Poems. By M. E. BRADDON. Bosworth and Harrison.

The one question which a singer asks before all others of reader and critic, the only question of vital moment to him and to them—viz., Is there real faculty in the verses of mine?—we will answer at once with reference to the volume before us, which is, avowedly, a first production. In a word, we think there is. The next most important question, What is the quality of the workmanship in these verses of mine? we will also answer at once:—Occasionally, frequently, as good as it can be; not inferior to that of any living singer; but sometimes indifferent, more rarely bad, though never slovenly. Then comes the third important question, In what stage of my growth do you, my reader and critic, take me to be? And we answer, Without doubt in the first or rhetorical stage. These are the answers we instinctively gave on first looking at the book, and our deliberate reading of it has since justified them. It comes to this, then—"Garibaldi, and other Poems," is a book to be welcomed, and counted as a pledge of better, brighter things to come. So much fulness and variety of promise, with such an obvious want of culture, we cannot remember to have seen. Altogether the volume, which is very nicely got up, is one to pique the curiosity of a critic. Who can this author be, who writes so well, and yet betrays such an incomplete education in a hundred lines, which a friendly critic at her elbow might pencil-mark? "M. E." look like feminine initials, and the careful avoidance of personal pronouns in the preface, apart from internal evidence, suggests that "M. E. Braddon" is a lady. But the internal evidence is strong. Only women paint such beautiful devils as "Olivia"; no man ever believed such a woman possible. Only a woman could have got up so much feeling about Victor Emmanuel in a poem about Garibaldi. Only a woman would have written

The hot sun, shut out by Venetian blinds,
Drew streaks of light upon the velvet pile.

And only a woman could express such a vivid contempt for men who do not tell their love.

Then we have the usual characteristics of youth and inexperience, of which the most prominent (as in all first books of poetry) is the frequent cry that "nought is everything, and everything is nought." Your young poet is the most *blasé* of beings all the world over—notoriously so. But then this writer must have had considerable experience of a very varied kind. She is well up in the duties of an M.P.'s secretary, and knows a great deal more about "hair triggers" than we do. Last, not least, she stimulates the reader's inquisitiveness by this most refreshing declaration, put into the mouth of one of her characters, but spoken with a naïveté which has more than dramatic truth in it:—

I do confess
I can remember scorn or insult long,
And never yet forgave a fancied wrong.

This is delightful! We have been so surfeited and sickened with "endurance," and "love," and "gentleness" of late years (notably since Mr. Longfellow struck the key-note of that sort of thing in "Evangeline" and his other poems), that anything to the tune of "hit him again!" falls like dew on the thirsty grass. Welcome—thrice welcome—to any writer who recognises that the sentiment of vengeance is at least entitled to this degree of consideration, that it is the crude material out of which justice has to be chiselled.

To come to detail. "Garibaldi," as the author will before long recognise, is a mistake from beginning to end. Despatches and leading articles cannot be turned into poetry in this way. The story is too recent. A particular "focus" must be presupposed before you can get descriptive-narrative poetry; and a "newspaperial" epic is an impossibility. You may have a short, fierce lyric, like the "Song of the Shirt" or "The Battle of the Baltic," because that is just like the scream or the shout of a person looking on, or the rapid reminiscence of a former spectator. But when we come to—

Then Garibaldi re-collects his force,

OR—

Turkuri, first to cross the barricade,
And gain the town, falls wounded in the knee,

we feel the full force of the poet's mistake. Not can our author plead in bar Byron's Talavera and Waterloo episodes. They are both short, rapid, and concentrated. And yet we are bold to say that, while the Waterloo sketch crowls almost every element out of which poetry might be made into a dozen verses, it contains, to quote Christopher North, "as bad lines as any to be found in Byron," though Byron is half his time a mere spouter. The youngest schoolboy who recites it with rapture feels that it has awkward corners and pitfalls, places where the poet "lets him in for it," weak points which all his fiery delivery cannot sufficiently strengthen. But all we want to convey our author will one day understand a great deal better than we can explain it to her in the space at our command. And in her next edition she will strike out (with "Garibaldi" and a few others) the verses in which a drowning sailor calls the attention of nobody in particular to the phenomena of his situation, and to his insensibility to "The Lightning-flash"—verses which are playfully entitled "Going Down, a Song." We should like to hear it sung by a "robustious" tenor! The most important part of the self-training of a young artist lies in the word "fortitude." One must learn to cut out; to sacrifice good things, if they spoil the general effect. Some of these poems are full of clever *asides*, which should be pitilessly thrown over board; and too much attention is paid to the working up of "points," to the detriment of the main body of the production. Surely the author could write an effective drama? Some of the simplest passages she gives us are also the profoundest and the best (p. 91):—

The prize we seek for from the hand of God
Is not the best, but that which best we love.

How very simple, and yet what a telling summary of the response of a passionate nature to the message of a teacher who says that it must not mind giving up its desire, for there is heaven in store for the self-denying! Every word in these two lines is a common monosyllable. Take another case (p. 202):—

He who made my self hath made my love,
Since that is more myself than I. I say
My love for you is wider than the seas,
And higher than the heavens? Yet what am I?
A woman, feeble as the drooping reeds
That tremble on the river. I can bend,
But not my love; I tremble—I am faint,
But not my love; I weary—not my love;
And I can die, but deathless is my love.

All simple, common words, again; but the general result is powerful, and the whole tenor of the passage original.

We will draw to a close by quoting two of the best things in the book. One shall be this

INVOCATION.

Oh stars, that shine on distant waves!
Oh stars, that light unhonoured graves!
Alone ye saw departed years,
And ye alone shall watch my tears.

Oh! tender, silver rays, that fell
Upon the head I loved so well;
Ye know the past, eternal beams,
And ye alone can read my dreams.

So guard my secret till the last,
Stars of the present and the past,
Unchanged where all are changed, remain
Sole silent records of my pain.

Then still look down on distant waves,
For ever light unhonoured graves!
For few the years before ye shine,
Lamps of the quiet night, on mine!

This is poetry, we think; but, then, it is something else—it is a speech. Once more:—

UNDERGROUND.

Oh, let the scornful lip be loud,
Though every word were once a wound;
Still on, beloved! be cold, be proud;
I can defy you—under ground!

Pass by my grave with careless tread,
Spurn the low grass and crush the weed:
The turf may fade above my head,
The heart beneath will never bleed.

I loved you as men love who stake
Their soul upon one cast. I lost.
Your common hearts can only break,
And life was all my madness cost.

I did not curse you when you sold
Your wicked heart; and when you lied,
And bartered all your soul for gold,
I let you go, and only—died.

So laugh, and tell them how I threw
Name, honour, creed, beneath your feet;
Tell all I lost in loving you,
And how you flung me off, my sweet

But keep this in your memory:
When all is told, when all is said,
The triumph still remains with me,
And I am victor—being dead!

So laugh you louder! say your worst!
Ring o'er my grave the silver sound!
Through you in life and death accurst,
I get escape you—under ground!

And this, too, is poetry; but it is also a speech. The author will now apprehend our drift when we say she is in her rhetorical stage. Something of the simplicity of genuine, unstaged emotion is wanting here—yes, something. Let the author study the best models as earnestly as she has, evidently, read them. Let her cut the bellows open and find out where the wind comes from, if she can. She will not be able, but she will learn the innermost secrets of her art in trying. The first volume of the poet is usually a sort of bonfire, into which he flings whatever will burn. His trying time comes when he begins to remember that there was a good deal of smoke and crackle about that same bonfire, and to find that it is not everything that will burn with the clear blue-white spiral flame that points skyward. Some critics pass the thing by, saying "It's only a bonfire!" Some say, "What a nuisance!" and cry, "Police!" Other some dance round the bonfire, shouting, "Hooray, what a beauty!" For ourselves, we have looked attentively at this bonfire, and say, soberly, that we think it rests with the kindler of it whether she shall one day stand by an altar-fire of her own, or stop at catherine-wheels and crackers.

Sketches in Natural History. With an Essay on Reason and Instinct. By the Rev. J. C. ATKINSON. Eighty-two Illustrations by W. S. COLEMAN, &c. Routledge, Warne, and Routledge.

Natural History Picture-book for Children. (Mammalia). By the Rev. J. G. WOOD, M.A., F.L.S. With 180 Illustrations. Routledge, Warne, and Routledge.

These are two books apparently intended to answer two widely-different purposes. The first is a fully-matured work, appealing to matured readers; and the most valuable and original portion of which—the long essays on reason and instinct, with which it concludes—will be found sufficiently erudite for all but the select aesthetic few. The second is full of capital pictures—a boy's and girl's book, which tells all about animals all over the globe, in a clear and reliable manner. In the "Natural History Picture-book" there appears to be nothing wanting, as far as the mammalian plan goes. We tested this perfectness by searching for some out-of-the-way gentry not always included in works of this description. Turning to the contents for the armadillo, surely enough we find that mail-clad warrior, whom we beg to recommend to the Thames Shipbuilding Company as a name for the next invulnerable vessel launched from their stocks. Another little-known animal is there—the wombat, from Australia—with a portrait, looking as large as life (which is not saying much) of this funny creature, giving himself all the airs of a Russian bear, and intent on his innocent food. There also is the ratel, that curious little animal who tumbles like a dolphin to the infinite amusement of the frequenters of the Zoological Gardens, Regent's Park. This one volume, then, appears to be very perfect, and, accompanied by those to follow, will teach as much natural history as is wanted by young people.

Since "Parson White" of Selborne's books, the parsons appear to have taken up natural history almost as a part of their calling. Rev. Mr. Wood's book, just noticed, pleases for its perfect plainness; but, passing to that of Rev. Mr. Atkinson, we are puzzled. It is a perfectly new book. Except for its literary illustrations, the writer is in no way indebted to the library for his pages. He writes entirely from his own experience. Therefore, his "Sketches in Natural History" are extremely limited in range, comprising a few species of water-fowl, the ringdove, hedgehog, water-rat, eel, partridge, and grouse. In addition, there are notes on the submergence of water birds, the apparent ventriloquism of birds, &c. These papers are all charmingly written, full of anecdote, and usually personal anecdote. The paper on the water-rat clears up more than one error, and should be appended to Dr. Wynter's chapter on the subject of rats, recently mentioned in these columns. For instance, the water-rat is asserted to be not that ruthless destroyer of eggs which he has been supposed to be; whilst the real culprit is probably a Hanoverian who has gone to the water-side, as people will do, in the season. Fifty pages might easily be quoted from Mr. Atkinson's book in proof of his ingenuity and industry, and of its interest and value; but, of course, fifty pages must not be quoted. Passing on to the "Reason and Instinct," which occupies about one-half the volume, we find the "puzzle" already mentioned. The author, a clergyman of the Church of England, boldly stands up to challenge the received versions of five texts of Scripture—the five usually advanced as argument against reason being in animals, and against the possibility of their claim to any future state. It re-translates in one case, and more closely weighs the meaning of words in others. By means of anecdotes he proves reason to exist in animals, and makes "the spirit of the beast that goeth downward to the earth" (Eccles. iii. 21) do at least the service of proving that the beast has a spirit. At this point of the argument we were shocked to remember how the author describes himself as having shot six times at a poor wretch of a water-rat (with a spirit!), and finally knocked him over with a stone (what a sermon in that stone!); but later in the essay we find that he thoroughly subscribes to that magnificent passage in Sidney Smith in which the ordinary distinction is drawn between man and beast—"... look on every compliment paid to the ape as high treason to the dignity of man. (but). The blue ape without a tail will never rival us in poetry, painting, or music." They have no fear of annihilation, no love of posthumous fame, no knowledge of God, no idea of an hereafter. These are the answers natural to Sidney Smith's questions, and with them Mr. Atkinson agrees. Without wishing to be in the least irreverent (and in some eyes to escape is difficult), we would ask, in the event of any other answer to those questions, what would be the state of affairs hereafter? Would the tiger be caged, or would he remain the despot of the jungle? Would the unicorn roam the desert, or would he be "willing to serve thee and abide by the crib"? (Job xxxix. 9.) To man these matters are surely of importance.

In conclusion, we can recommend Mr. Atkinson's book for its interest and utility, for its agreeable style, and for the well-reasoned essay with which it concludes.

FEARFUL EXPLOSION AT CHATHAM.

A TERRIBLE explosion took place on Monday morning among the explosive stores at Chatham. The part of the engineer establishment in which the accident occurred was that which is known as the north gun-shed, a long building extending about 200 feet in length by between 20 and 30 feet in width, the interior, which is not required for the guns and field-pieces used by the Royal Engineers, being set apart for the storage of the engineering implements in use by the Sappers and Miners, while the central portion is used as a manufactory for fuses, hand-grenades, &c. The working party numbering about thirty men, and a few non-commissioned officers, nearly the whole being Indian engineers, with only a few of the Royals, commenced operations in the factory at the usual hour. The men were under the direction of a sergeant-instructor named Adams, of the Royal Engineers, a man of great experience. The work chiefly performed by the engineers consisted in filling the grenades shells, and fuses with a composition previously prepared. This composition, which consisted of fine powder and saltpetre in about equal parts, with a small portion of sulphur, is known to be of a highly explosive character, and therefore great care is always required in its manipulation. Directions are accordingly given to the men employed in the factory to use the utmost care in filling the tubes, the sergeant-instructor by personal observations ascertaining that his orders are carried out. The composition is dealt out to the men in moderate quantities and placed in saucers by the side of each. The tubes and grenades are then filled and rammed tightly by means of a copper rod. This operation, which is technically known as "tamping," requires to be performed with great care, as any undue ramming of the composition will cause it to explode.

Just before the accident occurred on Monday Adams noticed one of the engineers, named Smith, performing his work in a rather careless manner, and reprimanded him for it. The same man afterwards finding a difficulty in ramming the composition into his fuse, asked the man next him to assist him, which he did, the two giving blow and blow. Suddenly the composition of the grenade which Smith held in his hand became ignited, Smith, who appeared paralysed with fear, continuing to retain his hold of it. The fire from the grenade then communicated with the loose composition lying about, which immediately ignited a large quantity of powder in a barrel, when the whole building blew up with a terrific explosion. The first report was followed by others, as the various heaps of grenades and fuses became ignited. The effects of the explosion were of the most serious character. The building itself was shaken to its foundation, while one entire side of the factory in which the work was being carried on was carried completely away, and the woodwork blown to a considerable distance. The force of the explosion being sideways the roof of the shed was not blown off, but portions of it were lifted, and the lead work, for a considerable length, rolled and twisted in an extraordinary manner.

Considering the number of men employed at the time, it seems surprising that several were not immediately killed, but as it is about a dozen are more or less seriously injured. Sergeant Chapman and Sappers Goode and Elliott, of the Royal Engineers, on the instant of the explosion occurring, were blown through the side of the shed and deposited in a coal-yard some distance off. Chapman, with the exception of a few trifling bruises, escaped unhurt, but both Goode and Elliott are severely burnt and injured. Sapper Thomas Rogers, of the Indian Engineers, is so severely injured that he is not expected to survive. He was employed close to Smith when the explosion happened, and is injured so much about the face, head, and other parts of the body that, should he recover, it is feared that his sight is quite gone. Many of the engineers were almost entirely denuded of their clothing, which was blown off by the explosion, and two or three had their clothes set on fire. Nearly every hut in the ranges of buildings forming the hut-barracks, a short distance from the engineer establishment, was shaken to its foundation, the inmates rushing out to ascertain the cause. A number of troops of the line were being exercised very near to the north gun-shed at the moment of the accident, and these, observing the side of the shed blown out, threw down their arms and ran away, under the impression that the entire building would blow up.

Immediately after the occurrence a board of officers, consisting of Major Lovell, Captain Shaw, and Captain Stuart, assembled at Brompton Barracks, by order of Colonel Harness, C.B., to investigate the cause of the accident.

PURSUING WOLVES IN THE VILLAGE OF SALLIERS.

REPORTS have already reached us of the severity of the weather in France, and amongst the consequences of the intense cold and deep snow several wolves have made their appearance in some of the villages, producing great alarm amongst the inhabitants; while the dogs who should have been the natural guardians of the flocks seem to have been unable to check the advances of the fierce predators. Indeed, it is long since the wolves have ventured to approach so far from their forest lairs, and many of the canine defenders, and, indeed, of the people themselves, must have been unacquainted with their enemy, but the intense cold rendered the animals desperate with hunger; and, as regards the village of Salliers, the island formed by the two branches of the Rhone, near its mouth, is one of those out-of-the-way places where the dense wood affords a covert for all sorts of wild animals. Even here, however, it has been long since wolves have been encountered, and nothing but hunger could have driven them to make a raid upon the neighbouring country.

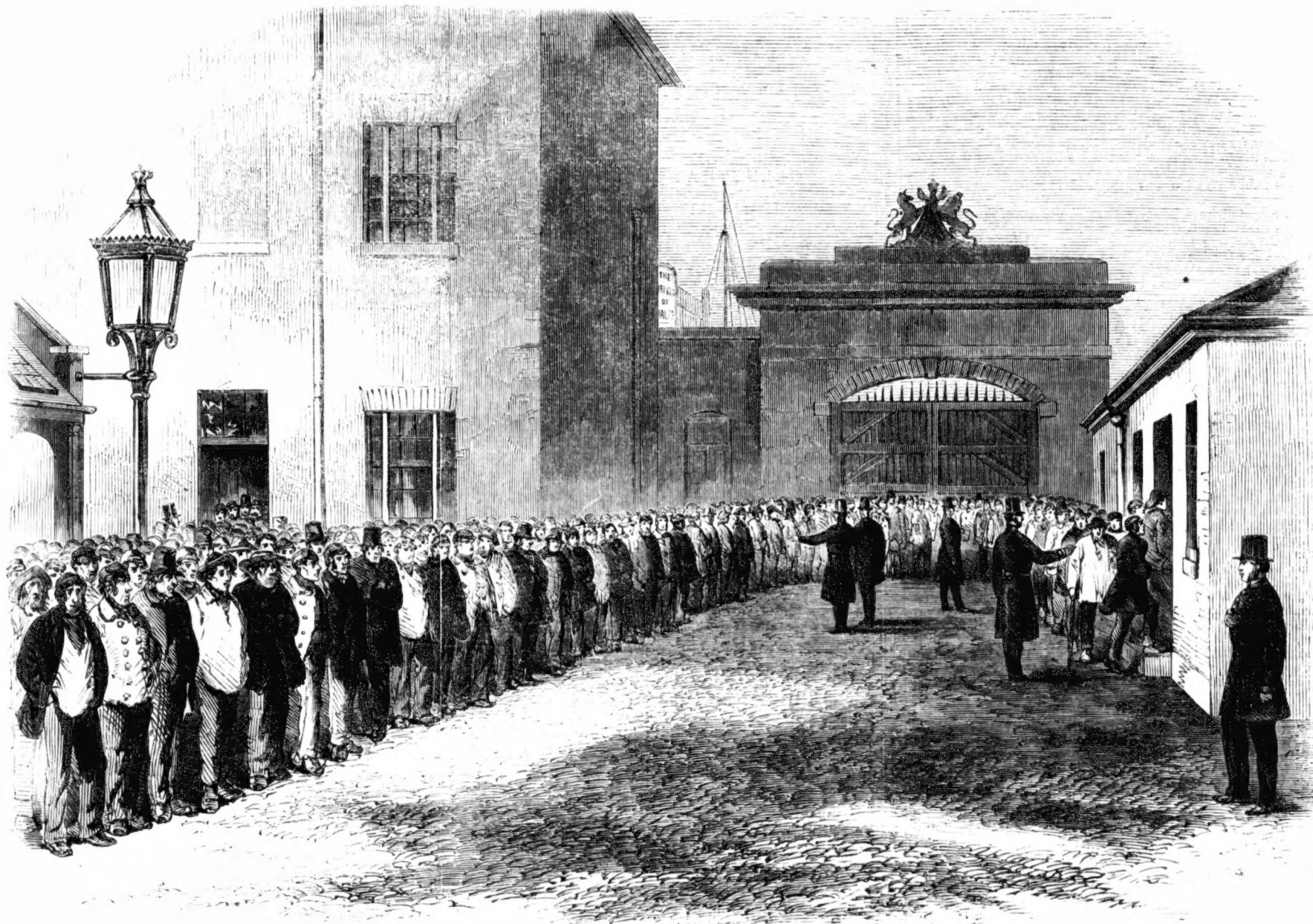
During the late snows, however, two of these gentry contrived to cross the bridge of boats connecting the island of Carmagne to the main land. It was just daybreak when they arrived at Salliers, and the two marauders crouched before the first cottage they came to, waiting for something to satisfy their hunger. They had not reckoned, however, upon the keen scent of the great dogs which are kept at the village—great white fellows, who would stand no nonsense. Even these, however, as well as the rest of the canine specimens, seemed disinclined to attack their formidable opponents who immediately rushed to a ditch, where for a time they bade defiance to their enemies. Meanwhile the whole village was in uproar. Clubs, pitchforks, and all sorts of weapons were seized; the women and children screamed; the men shouted, and such as had guns brought them out. At length, tracked by the dogs, the wolves entered a part of the village where there was no outlet, and one of them having been knocked on the head, the other made a spring at a hunter, who finally dispatched him. They were two of the largest ever seen in the country; and it was decided that their heads should be placed over the old gate of the village, surmounted by the escutcheon of the Knights of Malta, the ancient governors of the country.

A MAN FROZEN TO DEATH.—One night last week, at about ten o'clock, two seamen belonging to a Norwegian vessel at anchor in Long Reach (Thames), got into the ship's boat to go ashore, but soon found themselves locked up in the ice, where they remained until eleven o'clock the next day. Some persons who had observed the boat remaining stationary then managed to approach it. One man was found frozen to death in the boat, and the other perfectly stiff with cold, though alive.

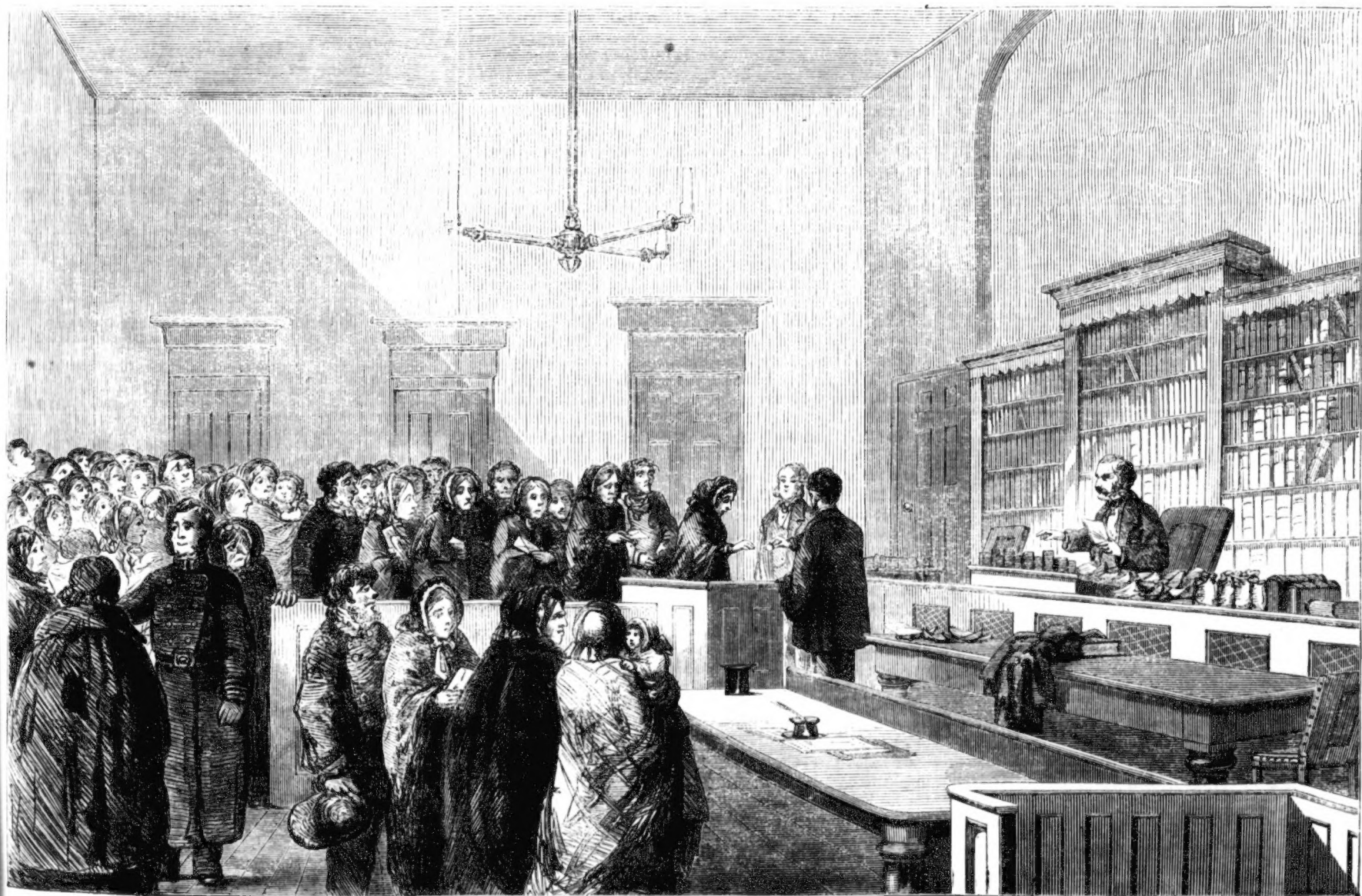
LOSS OF TWO SHIPS AND FORTY LIVES.—The loss of two screw-steamers belonging to Hull, named the *Bothnia* and the *Wesley*, is reported. The *Bothnia* was a vessel of 1600 tons, and 300-horse power. She was coming from Dantzic to Hull, and was last heard of at Elsinore, which place she passed three hours after the *Wesley*, 600 tons, which was also on her way to Hull from Copenhagen. Neither of these vessels has since been heard of, although this is above three weeks ago. The *Bothnia* had on board twenty-two hands, and the *Wesley* eighteen, all of whom it is feared must have perished.



A WOLF HUNT IN THE VILLAGE OF SALICES.



METROPOLITAN DISTRESS.—APPLICANTS FOR RELIEF WAITING IN THE YARD OF THE THAMES POLICE COURT.



INTERIOR OF THE THAMES POLICE COURT.—THE MAGISTRATE ADMINISTERING RELIEF TO THE POOR OF THE DISTRICT.

RELIEF OF THE POOR.

In the mercy of Providence the terrible cold has abated, and the sufferings of the poor will be greatly ameliorated.

During the time of the severe weather the facts of destitution and starvation have been brought before the public in a way which, while it has convinced us all how much of want and misery lies around us, has at the same time met with a response which proves that ignorance and the neglect of inquiry, rather than apathy and real heartlessness, are the evils to be encountered in our social condition. As to the legal and ordinary means for the relief of distress, they have been proved utterly worthless on any emergency whatever, and, since they have repeatedly broken down under extraordinary pressure, it might (but for the conservative influence brought to bear upon all institutions which have been tried and failed) be deemed possible that they would be re-established on an entirely different foundation, where the public taxation was calculated to achieve some adequate result.

In the recent distress, however, the police-courts of the metropolis have been the real centres of beneficence.

Of all the starving men, freezing women, and destitute children with whom our London streets have abounded during the severe frosts, none have had any definite hope of alleviation for their hunger, cold, and destitution beyond that which has been afforded by those gentlemen who have added to the arduous administration of justice the labours of public almoners for the bounty of those whose benevolence could find no other undoubted channel for the distribution of their subscriptions.

It is a blessing for this country that the ministers of justice are never more appropriately or more cheerfully employed than when they are sacrificing their scanty leisure to the alleviation of distress; and though the necessity should not, and we trust, some day will not, exist, we cannot but rejoice that the gentlemen whose duty it is so frequently to punish are always more or less employed in administering to the wants of the unfortunate by timely relief.

Our Illustrations represent those scenes which have been so recently enacted throughout the various metropolitan districts; and, although the great number of extremely poor amongst the labourers of the locality may exceed the average, the Thames Police Court has, after all, not been singular in the affecting evidence which it has exhibited of an almost overwhelming amount of misery amongst the London poor.

It is an instance of the orderly and patient endurance of the English labourer, that, notwithstanding the terrible sufferings of the people, no act of violence, nor even of lawlessness, has been the result, even the two or three attempts of some ruffians to break into bakers' shops having originated with those who were not in any connected with the body of the real London labourers. At the Thames Police Court, on Friday, upwards of 2000 people attended for relief; and so orderly was their conduct that, although Mr. Self, the magistrate, could not relieve the men that night, and 100 women at a time were admitted to the yard of the court, the whole assembly went quietly away, and even those who were disappointed of adequate relief took their single loaf of bread with quiet thankfulness. The letters and recommendations of great numbers were from persons of whom the magistrate knew nothing. Others were satisfactory, and, in the course of the evening 300 women were relieved at a cost of £45, in sums of from 1s. to 7s. each; 340 bread tickets were given away. One woman was relieved with 10s.; £10 was given to a Protestant minister for the relief of destitute persons belonging to his flock, and £20 to a Roman Catholic priest for a similar purpose. The men, principally Irish labourers and without employ, waited in the street opposite the court till nearly eight o'clock, and, finding these was nothing for them except the bread tickets, which only a small portion of them obtained, they departed sorrowfully enough, but without disturbance of any kind.

The following remarks are those of an eye witness on this particular occasion:—"The great feature, and one which could not fail to strike the most careless observer in contemplating this assemblage, was the silence that prevailed and the air of stern resignation on the countenances of all. This was no assembly of rags and tatters, none of your whining, cowering, street beggars here, neither were there any specimens of the elaborately got-up mechanic with the clean smug face and spotless linen and apron, and two boxes of lucifers, who pervade the streets, markets, and thoroughfares on Saturday nights, and a sample of whom I met on my way homeward; but these were men with hard, horny, and willing hands to work if it could be got, and if it could not, then with feelings too proud to beg, although accepting with thankfulness, and waiting with patience to share in the aid which they know is given freely from the abundance of their more favoured and wealthy brethren. Numbers must have been waiting two or three hours, but scarcely any impatience was manifested, unless an occasional stamping of the feet to get a little circulation into the frozen blood could be construed as such; in fact, such mutual forbearance and fair play, and a determination to keep order, were shown, that a narrow path extending in front of the court and round the side for ingress and egress was as well kept by the people themselves as if a barrier had been erected.

THE BONAPARTE LAW CASE.—The *Moniteur* publishes a note confirmatory of the fact that the great Bonaparte case of legitimacy is really to be allowed to come on for trial. But "the journals have entered into incomplete and erroneous explanations on the subject. The First Chamber of the Tribunal of the Seine has in fact before it the application alluded to, which again raises the question of the validity of the marriage contracted in America in the year 1803 by Prince Jerome—a marriage which was protested against by his mother on the 3 Ventose, An XIII.; annulled by two decrees of the Emperor Napoleon I., and of the 11 and 30 Ventose, An XIII. and to which two decisions of the Conseil de Famille Imperial, of the 4th of July, 1856, and the 5th of July, 1860, refused all effect, declaring that the union of 1803 was null and void, and that it could not, even under the circumstances of the case, permit the applicant to take the benefit of articles 201 and 202 of the Code Napoleon, attributing to a nullified marriage the civil effects of marriage when it has been contracted in good faith. A memoir, by M. Berryer, to which premature publicity has been given, and on the terms of which we shall not give an opinion, has been distributed; it contains documents the authenticity of which is disputed. M. Allon, the advocate of his Imperial Highness, has confined himself to distributing a simple collection of letters and official documents connected with the affair. Prince Napoleon refused to decline the competency of the ordinary tribunals by invoking the special jurisdiction applicable to the Imperial family. In this state of the question it will be understood that a feeling of the most simple propriety commands the greatest reserve, and imposes the necessity of awaiting both the discussions, which will completely clear up the question, and the new decision of justice." It appears from the *Moniteur*, that Prince Jerome married a third time; for by a will, dated July 6, 1852, he leaves a life annuity to "the Marchioness Bartolini," whom he declares he had "married in presence of the church," meaning that the religious ceremony only was performed. The following significant paragraph is going the round of the journals:—"M. Dupin is understood to be studying the law of divorce." In our own Court of Probate Lavinia Jannetta Hyves, who was divorced from her husband in 1841, has lodged a petition claiming to be the heiress, through her mother, of the Duke of Cumberland, brother of George III.

ANTIQUARIAN RELICS IN THE ESTIMATES.—The Horse Guards and the Blues have the same duties, the same rank, and are identical in everything except pay. The Horse Guards receive 31. a day, or 25 per cent more pay than the Blues. This has gone on for many years. At last the anomaly struck some meditative individual, and he devoted his leisure to an historical inquiry into the matter. After much official research he discovered that the difference originated in this wise:—Many years ago the Blues being at Windsor and the Horse Guards in London, the London barracks required repair, and during these repairs the Horse Guards were necessarily turned out of barracks, and allowed 31. a night billet-money. In a few months the barracks were repaired, and the Horse Guards went back; but that billet-money, that 31., has gone on unexamined and on punctually paid through all the succeeding years. No lynx-eyed member peering through the estimates, has ever seen it. It has grown to tens of thousands, and is simply the result of the omission of a clerk to make a memorandum in a book many years ago, when the Horse Guards went back to their regular quarters.

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 1861.

COTTON.

HAVING had much trouble of late years with the politicians of Manchester, we have now to deal with a new difficulty in the "raw material" of their staple manufacture. Not that the risk of depending on one country alone for the supply of cotton has been discovered since the election of Mr. Abraham Lincoln. Manchester had already considered it before in relation to the fortunes of its magnates, and, no doubt (for selfishness is not a Manchester vice) to the bread of five million "hands." The statesmen who behold no danger in staking the peace and the liberties of the country on the disposition of a Frenchman have long seen how dangerous to trade it is to depend on America for cotton; and yet the Frenchman is prone to war, while the American is notoriously a man of markets. An agitation has been going on for many years to secure the tranquillity of England from this commercial risk; the disruption of the United States has ripened it.

The question is now, indeed, of first rate importance. The news from America grows graver by every mail, and more and more there appears reason to apprehend that North and South will come to blows. A conflict commenced now would scarcely have come to an end by March, and then is the time for sowing cotton. Sown much later, and after the ravages of warfare, the crop would be an utter failure; and then what would be the result to us after a bad harvest, a hard winter, and the disturbance of trade consequent on a readjustment of our commercial relations? No work in England for three or four millions of people—a dozen Coventries like wounds in the land, bleeding. For to the Southern States of America we have to look for nearly eighty per cent of that supply of raw cotton which is already scarcely sufficient for our wants. In 1854 we received from America eighty-one per cent; in 1855 and 1856, seventy-six per cent; in 1857, sixty-five per cent; in the following year, eighty per cent; and in 1859, seventy-eight. The difference of proportion shown by these figures is accounted for in a way which gives us hope that we may be soon freed from the monopoly of the American planter. It will be seen that the States' supply fell from eighty-one to sixty-five per cent between the year 1854 and 1857. The East Indian grower had meanwhile been pushing the cultivation of cotton, and in 1856 grew 250,000,000lb. of it. Had peace prevailed in India to this day, our imports from that empire might by this time have reached a point at which we could contemplate a falling off from America without despair; but the mutiny appeared, and in 1858 our import of cotton from India was little more than half that of the previous year. The country settled, cultivation was resumed; and the supply improved so considerably that we may fairly hope next year to get as much as in 1857. There is evidently a great disposition on the part of the East Indian landowners to extend the growth of cotton, even with so strong a rival, and one so near the market, as America; and when they learn, as soon they will, that there is likely to be a dearth in England, that disposition is not likely to be discouraged. Brazil, Sicily, the British West Indies, Australia, Africans black and white, are alive to their own advantage, too, no doubt; and whatever enterprise they possess is now tempted by an opportunity of getting well and fairly into the market hitherto so much monopolised.

On the whole, then, and considering that the Government has volunteered to facilitate whatever means exist for obtaining cotton from new fields, we have good ground to hope that our danger in this regard will soon pass away, with this advantage into the bargain—we shall be less liable to be bullied by America on political questions. The Southerners brag that cotton is King of England, and that his sceptre is in their hands. This may not be quite true, since (for one thing) it is as necessary for Southerners to sell cotton as for Manchester men to buy it; and if we have several millions of people who live by weaving cotton they have to feed several millions of people who can do nothing but grow it. But, true or not, it is a boast or a menace which is too often turned to account in political disputes; and we shall be glad when it can be shared by Liberia and a few other States as inoffensive.

Of course there is the question of the meanwhile. The movement now on foot will almost certainly result in largely stocking the market from all parts of the world by and by; but our need will be a pressing one, if it come at all. The danger is that we shall have a totally inadequate supply next year, and there seems but little time for us to provide against so sudden a contingency. However, that much can be done by instant application is evident. Cotton-growers

in the Mediterranean, in Brazil, and probably in India and elsewhere, may be stimulated to increased production; and a total failure of the American crop can scarcely be apprehended. At any rate, it is too soon to despond, if not too early to prepare. The Slave States have not yet sworn to unite for the promotion of their own downfall; and Lord John Russell's letter to the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, the debates in that body and in the public press, will probably tend to qualify their martial ardour. They may reflect on the prospect of coming out of a war, enfeebled and impoverished, to find their great cotton market occupied by competitors flushed with success, and encouraged by our merchants and our Government alike. No good prospect this; it appears to us that our own is far better.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE BEAUTY AND FASHION of the neighbourhood of Torquay collected at a grand "ribbon ball" yesterday week. They wore dresses made of Coventry ribbons.

THE FRENCH OFFICERS in garrison at Rome persist in not recognising any of their countrymen in a military capacity under a banner distinct from that of France, and the Pontific Zouaves are not admissible inside the threshold of the garrison club in Piazza Colonna unless they are introduced in the costume of civilians.

GARIBALDI's party has published a declaration that they will, to the best of their abilities, oppose the re-election of all the 229 members who voted for the cession of Nice to France.

JOHN THOMPSON, a commercial traveller for a Leeds wine-merchant, was apprehended, a few days ago, on board the Etna, for New York, on a charge of embezzlement, and was committed for trial by the magistrates.

THE PEMBROKESHIRE CONTEST has resulted in the return of Mr. Phillips the Conservative candidate, by a large majority.

THE GOVERNMENT OF VICTOR EMANUEL has determined to issue a new bronze coinage, which is to be struck in Milan. Messrs. Ralph Heaton and Sons, of the Mint, Birmingham, have obtained the contract, and have to produce 732,000 pieces per cent, commencing on the 1st of April, 1861.

SIR THOMAS EDWARD COLERIDGE, Bart., M.P. for Lanarkshire, will probably be selected to move the Address in the House of Commons in answer to the Speech from the Throne.

SERJANT TOZER, of the Norfolk Circuit, has been appointed to the vacant recordership of Bury St. Edmunds.

THE BANQUET TO SIR WILLIAM HAYTER announced in our columns some time ago is fixed for Feb. 25.

SIR CHARLES EASTLAKE, director of the National Gallery, is said to have secured a fine work of Angelico de Fiesole for the collection in Trafalgar-square.

THE KEWINGTON ART-MUSEUM has indirectly contributed to pay Peter's pence in support of the war frolics of De Merode by its purchase of Campana's collection of terra cottas and other articles of virtue, inasmuch as the property was under seizure for deficit in public accounts, and the British money goes to the credit of the military budget.

PATRICK LUNNEY was executed at Dumbarton yesterday week for murder. ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON a destructive fire took place in the Temple, King's Bench-walk.

M. MUSARD, of Paris, is announced to hold promenade concerts in St. James's Hall.

MR. R. D. MITCHELL, a retired naval surgeon, residing at Henley-on-Thames, has been committed for trial on the charge of causing the death of his servant girl by starvation.

A RUMOUR is in circulation that the Bank of France, whilst buying gold with silver in Belgium, Germany, and other countries, are in treaty with the Bank of Russia for an exchange for about one million sterling of the former against a like amount of the latter.

A REDUCTION OF ONE-HALF in the postage now payable on the interchange of letters between England and France, and the substitution of a twopenny post between the two countries, instead of the great now levied, is talked of.

GENERAL SIR GEORGE SCOVELL, G.C.B., Colonel of the 4th Light Dragoons, died at Henley Park, Guildford, on Thursday week.

THE FIRST CONVERSATION OF THE MUSICAL SOCIETY took place on the 23rd at St. James's Hall.

THE ACCOUNTS of the last Norwich Festival show a surplus of £916.

THE NEW OPERA HOUSE in Paris is to be designed in competition, open to all the world.

THE THIRD DRAMATIC PERFORMANCE of the season took place at Windsor Castle on the evening of yesterday week. The pieces played were "Masks and Faces" and "My Wife's Mother." Mr. A. Wigan, Mr. Webster, Mr. Selby, Mr. Emery, and Mrs. Wigan, Mrs. Stirling, Miss Terry, and Miss Herbert, were the principal performers.

A THOUSAND POUNDS were collected on the Stock Exchange for the metropolitan poor on Thursday week. Since then the sum has greatly increased.

ALGERINE JOURNALS record the death of a sheik named Ben Moloka, aged 110, and of an Arab named Aissa Mohammed, aged 113.

THE PEOPLE OF UDINE, the capital of Friuli, one of the provinces of Venetia, have recently made a singular demonstration. Instead of proclamations in favour of annexation to Italy, they posted up some fifty Austrian banknotes at the corners of the streets.

LORD ELPHINSTONE, who died a few days since at Bournemouth, only succeeded his uncle, the late Governor of Bombay, in July last in the Scottish barony. The late Peer was the only son of the Hon. Admiral Charles Fieleming Elphinstone, son of John, eleventh Lord Elphinstone.

THE REPORT that General Dunn had died at Naples is contradicted.

DURING A PIGEON-SHOOTING MATCH at Malvern last week a gentleman who was on the point of firing slipped on the icy ground, and the charge from his gun shot the man dead who was pulling the trap-string.

A MEETING was held in Chelsea few days since for the purpose of advocating the enfranchisement of that populous district.

GREAT DAMAGE was occasioned to the outer line of earthworks now in course of construction along the shores of Stokes Bay, near Portsmouth, by the excessively heavy rainfall which preceded the setting in of the frosty weather, and which damage, it is feared, will be developed to a still greater extent on a complete thaw taking possession of the ground.

ANOTHER SERIOUS COLLISION occurred near the Wigan station of the London and North-Western Railway between two passenger trains on Tuesday morning. Several of the passengers are reported as seriously injured.

COUNT PERSIGNY has refused M. Olivier's application to be allowed to establish a political journal in Paris. This is a great blow to the hopes excited by the decree of November. It shows better than whole columns of argument that, as far as the press is concerned, no real change has taken place in the Imperial régime.

RECENT ACCOUNTS FROM SHANGHAI mention a report as being current in that place to the effect that the Emperor of China would in the spring send his brother, Prince Kung, as Ambassador Extraordinary to Paris and London.

IN THE CANTON OF ST. GALL recruiting for the army of Garibaldi is being secretly carried on, we hear, and that 500 francs are given to each man who enlists; also that Italian agents are buying up all the lead and firearms they can find.

TURKISH FINANCE.—M. Tchitchakof, a Russian financial writer, writes as pamphlet, published in Paris, proving that the Turkish Empire is in a bad state, and that investment in the Turkish loan is a bad speculation. One must have visited the country and personally examined the condition of each province "to have a notion of the mass of gigantic ruins which people are pleased to call the Ottoman Empire." M. Tchitchakof shows how the very "guardians of this edifice, from the Sultan to the lowest employed, hasten on its destruction;" how "the Commander of the Faithful himself lavishes on his own personal pleasures the eleventh part of the total revenue of the empire; and how the Sovereign of a country which, relatively to its population, has the smallest revenue of any State in Europe, is the one whose civil list is higher than that of the richest Sovereigns of the world. And it is from a Government so circumstanced that people venture to demand an annual sacrifice of thirty millions, while the whole amount of the loan will hardly suffice to pay the enormous arrears due to the army; and in order to create and pay a new one it will be necessary not to reduce, but, on the contrary, to add to the annual expense at least 30,000,000fr. Such are the gloomy disclosures which ungrateful Turkey may soon be able to make in return for the famous certificate that there was at least as much courage in giving as in accepting."

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

In 1835 the revenue was £50,491,734; in 1860 it amounted to the enormous sum of £72,000,000, or thereabouts, and yet we had no more territory to govern and defend in 1860 than we had in 1835. This is certainly a serious business, and it is not surprising that the people should begin to wriggle and fret under their heavy burden, nor that members of Parliament should, on the eve of a Session, begin to cast about for some method of reducing its weight, especially with money at 7 per cent, and a prospect before us of distress in Lancashire likely to arise out of the American civil war. But if I were a member of Parliament I do not think I should sign that memorial to Lord Palmerston which Mr. Samuel Morley is hawking about for signatures. Mr. Vincent Scully is not remarkable for his wise sayings in the House; but I think he has hit the right nail on the head in a paragraph of his letter to Mr. Morley:—

I think (he says), also, that the address adopts too suppliant an attitude, and that it is not constitutional to beseech a Premier as to matters which the nation has specially confided to our control, or to ask him to discharge our own duties for us. It does not well become the people's representatives to go, in hand, to any Minister upon a matter of supplies. Whenever to go, the money is required by the Minister it is his duty to come for it to the Commons, whose province it is to check extravagant expenditure and to ensure wasteful outlay. The Liberal members should not be parties to any transfer of their trust to the Crown or its advisers.

The last sentence of this paragraph is well worthy of notice. The Liberal members were very indignant last Session because the Lords infringed upon the right of the Commons alone to deal with taxation, and here we see some sixty or seventy of them introducing a novelty which, if it be not an infringement of the Constitution, is very much like one. The Crown asks for money; it is the ancient and proud prerogative of the Commons to say whether they will grant it. Indeed, it was for this very purpose that the Commons of England came into existence; and for many years after knights and burgesses were summoned to Parliament they had nothing to do with legislation. Their simple duty was to grant or refuse money to the Crown, as they saw fit; and very often they refused. And here it occurs to me to say that these sturdy men did not seem to regulate their supplies entirely by the wants of the Crown, but partly by the ability of the people to pay. "Your Majesty wants so much money; well, your Majesty, the people cannot give it; but we will give you so much, and you must do as we are obliged to do—cut your coat according to your cloth." And really I venture to think that something of this spirit is needed in the present House. For example, if the Chancellor of the Exchequer should ask for seventy-two millions let some one once boldly move that the House will not grant more than seventy-sixty-eight. Of one thing I am certain—nay, of two things: 1st, that Lord Palmerston will laugh at this memorial; and, 2nd, that if any one hopes materially to reduce the estimates in Committee of Supply he will be disappointed. The reduction must be forced upon the Government by some general resolution, or it will not be made at all. But here comes another question—viz., are these memorialists sincere? I doubt it. Indeed, I may say in conclusion that, so far from the House of Commons being now the guardian of the people of the public purse, it is mainly owing to the House that the expenditure has so enormously increased, and that the disposition of the people's representative is to badger the Government to spend money rather than to economise the expenditure. I could give many examples of this, but let one suffice. When the Probate Bill was passed the Government was averse to giving the Proctors compensation; but the House, at the instigation of Mr. Malins, beat the Government, and now, if I mistake not, £150,000 and more is annually flowing out of the Exchequer for their compensation; and the Proctors are positively receiving considerably more than they received before the bill passed—or, at all events, more than they returned to the income tax.

Mr. Joseph Crook means positively to retire from the representation of Bolton. He came into Parliament in 1852 with Mr. Thomas Barnes, who in 1857 was beaten by Mr. Grey. There are few constituencies in the kingdom who would have returned Mr. Crook; for, in the first place, he is an extreme Radical, and, in the next, he avowedly holds very free religious opinions. But Mr. Crook was supported as the working man's friend. He it was who year after year brought in the Bleachers' Bill, and at length last Session carried it triumphantly through the House. Mr. Crook was one of the House's oddities. Though he holds extreme Radical opinions he belonged to no party in the House, and used, indeed, to hold all parties and party fights in contempt; and, when a hot dispute arose, he made up his mind and acted upon his opinions, utterly careless whether he pleased or displeased Whigs, Tories, Radicals, or even his constituents. He is no speaker, nor did he prove himself always a clever tactician; but, then, he possessed the dogged pertinacity of a slenthound, and hence it was that he was enabled after years of labour to pass his pet bill for the benefit of the bleachers. Mr. Crook is a cotton-spinner, and retires, it is understood, because his business requires his personal attendance. Mr. Barnes is again in the field. Like Mr. Crook, Mr. Barnes is an out-and-out Radical. It will be remembered that Dr. Bowring was member for Bolton when he was appointed Consul at Canton. The population of Bolton is nearly 70,000, but the electors do not number more than 2000.

When Mr. Edwin James first entered the House of Commons it was evident to all that he intended to do something grand in the way of oratory. He spoke on the night that he took his seat, and when he arose he carefully placed himself in an impressive position, drawing himself up to his full height, and thrusting his hand into his breast; and his opening phrase was very pompous, and delivered in a style which was intended to be very impressive. But a titter that threatened to break out into a laugh warned the honourable and learned gentleman that the House of Commons is not the Old Bailey, and he wisely took the warning and came down from his stilts. But it is clear the "Erebus vein" is natural to him, and when he gets a suitable audience he gives his natural gift full swing. Witness the opening of his speech at the late meeting of his constituents. "Gentlemen," he said, "a year has rolled over us since last we met, and has passed away into the abyss of time;" and that picture of Garibaldi "sitting on his solitary rock of Caprera pluming his pinion for another flight." Mr. James ought to have been a Yankee. His style of speaking would be just the thing for the American House of Representatives. What thunders of applause would that poetic apostrophe to liberty which was received so tamely at Albany-street have brought down at Washington? "A shout, sir (to quote an American description somewhat in the James style), that would have shaken the earth to its very centre, disturbed the order of the universe, and made this planet of ours fly out of its orbit to describe an erratic course in infinite space." By-the-by, Mr. James made an erroneous statement, I think, at this meeting. It was, surely, the Derby Reform Bill, the draught of which cost £2000, and not the bill of the present Government. Nor is Mr. James correct, I venture to think, in saying that his clerk would have drawn it for a couple of guineas. Messrs. Baxter, Rose, and Norton's charge was high—but two guineas! Why, Mr. James would not have gone down to Downing-street to receive instruction under a 30-guinea fee.

Mr. Robert Peel Dawson, the Protestant member for London-derry County, imprudently advocated the Party Emblem's Bill last Session, and last week, when Mr. Dawson arose to lecture on the antiquities of the city, the Derry Protestant boys gave him such a rough reception that after a time he was glad to shut up his book and fly. Mr. Dawson came into Parliament first in 1859, and, if this affair should lead to his rejection next election, I do not think that the House will grieve, for Mr. Dawson is a dull, long-winded speaker, and, moreover, has the true Irish propensity of unbottling his eloquence after midnight. And, then, what dull commonplace stuff it is that he spins out. I never hear him, and the like of him, but I think of a verse of Tom Moore:—

Oh, the fool who is truly so never forgets,
But still feels it on to the close;
A Piousness leaves the debate when it sets
Just as dark as it was when it rose!

Sir Edward Colebrooke is to move the Address. Sir Edward is the one-armed member for Lanarkshire. He sits in the top bench just below the gangway. I have always looked upon Sir Edward as a modest, able man, and a good speaker as to matter; but he has a voice so weak that he cannot gain the attention of the House. He sat for Taunton from 1842 to 1852, and came in for Lanarkshire in 1857.

Mr. Doxat, the oldest London newspaper editor, both in point of age and press service, has just retired from the *Observer* newspaper. With this journal Mr. Doxat was connected for the long period of fifty-four years and six months, a term of service in an editorial capacity, it is believed, unequalled in the records of English journalism. Mr. Doxat, who, I am happy to say, retires in perfect health and with a handsome fortune, was, in years long gone by, the responsible manager of the *Morning Chronicle*, fulfilling at the same time his editorial duties not only in connection with the *Observer*, but likewise the *Englishman*, a paper long since defunct, but then enjoying an extensive circulation.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kean are again coming to London after a brilliant provincial tour, and will appear at DRURY LANE on Monday next in "Hamlet." Eighteen years have passed since Mr. Kean trod the boards of the great national theatre; twenty-two have elapsed since he made his debut in the same character, a raw, untaught lad, disliking theatricals, and prompted in adopting them but by filial love and duty. As a polished actor, a ripe scholar, and a most enterprising and liberal ex-manager, he now again appears on the same boards, bringing with him *opima spolia* from the provinces, and the heartiest respect and appreciation from all London playgoers. To aid him in his career comes his wife, without question the sweetest English actress of the day. Mr. and Mrs. Kean have accepted an engagement extending over twenty-four nights, during which they will appear in several of their most celebrated characters; and there can be no doubt that they will enjoy a most distinguished success.

A farce, translated from "La Premiere Ride," and called "A Change for the Better," has been produced at the OLYMPIC. It is a very weak and improbable piece, very badly translated, and will probably have no very lengthened run.

It is rumoured that Miss Reynolds will shortly appear at the PRINCESS.

ADDRESS TO LORD DE GREY.—On Saturday a numerous meeting of the commanding officers of various volunteer regiments in the county of Middlesex was held at the Volunteer Service Club for the purpose of adopting an address to Lord De Grey on the occasion of his retirement from the office of Under-Secretary for War. High encomiums having been passed on Lord De Grey for his services in connection with the organisation of the volunteer movement, the address was adopted, and a deputation appointed to present it to his Lordship.

BANQUET TO SIR JOHN YOUNG.—A number of colonists of New South Wales now residing in England entertained Sir John Young at dinner, at the Clarendon, a few days since, previous to the departure of the right hon. gentleman to assume the government of that colony. Amongst the distinguished guests present were the Earl of St. Germans, the Marquis of Headfort, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, and Sir John Frederick Rogers.

THE NAVY ESTIMATES.—A rumour is current that the Navy Estimates for the present year will, when presented to the House of Commons, show an important reduction in the number of seamen required for the use of the country. We understand that a vote will be asked for 4000 men less than was demanded last Session. We are told that the actual number of able seamen will not be in any way affected, but that it is the desire of the Lords of the Admiralty to get rid of some useless coast-guardsmen.

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE NATIONAL EXPENDITURE.—Sir De Lacy Evans and Mr. Vincent Scully have sent copies to the newspapers of letters which they have returned in reply to the circular respecting the reduction of the national expenditure. Sir De Lacy Evans concurs in the desirableness of a revision of the national taxation and expenditure, with a view to economy; but, he says, "I entirely dissent from its being safe or expedient to divert this country. I am not so confident as you appear to be of the maintenance of peace in Europe, or of the unaggressive intentions of the Emperor Napoleon." Moreover, he disapproves of private communications to a Prime Minister intended to influence, by anticipation, public legislation. Mr. Scully also thinks that the reduction of the expenditure cannot be effected through private addresses. Parliament, he thinks, "should at once insist that, unless in exceptional cases, all the annual estimates shall be submitted at an early period, instead of towards the close of each Session. The next step should be to appoint a Select Committee, and ascertain in what respects the national expenditure can be reduced without detriment to the public service. Notices to the above effect stand now in my name, but I should prefer to see them in charge of influential members."

THE TAO-PING LETTER.—Let the Jews' Conversion Society believe if it pleases that the recently-published letter to Lord Elgin from the Chief of the Tao-Pings is authentic. It requires a mind perverted by the habitual pursuit of missionary reports to put faith in a document which bears more external and internal marks of its spurious origin than any figment of modern times. We imagine there is not the slightest doubt that this paper—written, we dare say, in very choice Chinese—was dictated to the person in whose name it comes, if indeed, it was as much as dictated, by the American missionary who rejoices in a name ending with the national and highly characteristic termination "sing-sang." The writer has not been able to refrain from naming himself "Lo-how-chuen-sing-sang," and commemorating his influence with the Tao-Ping Chiefs; and, in the pride of authorship, he has appended the well-known American formula, "The Washington Union, the Times, and some paper in Paris, please copy." The indirect evidence corroborates the direct. The writer's knowledge that the weaknesses of the persons whom he is addressing are religion and trade has already been pointed at by other critics as suspicious, and it may be added that the familiarity with Anglo-Saxon character which he betrays is indicative rather of an American than of an English pen. The American goes in for the Authorized Version and the almighty dollar. An English counterfeiter would have appealed to the same tender spots in the British bosom, but he would never have forgotten to allude to other items of the Briton's creed—say, the heroism of the British Lion, the wickedness of slavery, the virtues of Queen Victoria, or the utility of passports.—*Saturday Review*.

OUTBREAK AMONG THE CONVICTS AT CHATHAM.—Considerable alarm has been occasioned at the convict prison, St. Mary's, Chatham, in consequence of several violent outbreaks which have occurred among the inmates of that establishment, where there are upwards of 1000 convicts undergoing various terms of penal servitude. The ringleader appears to be a convict named Peters, who is under sentence of penal servitude for ten years. Peters, it appears, had contrived to obtain possession of a skeleton key, though how remains a mystery. With this he succeeded in unlocking the hall-door, and, after crossing the yard unperceived, was in the act of unlocking the cell-door of a notorious character named Bennett, who is under penal servitude for life, when he was seen and secured. Search was then made for another skeleton key believed to be in the possession of one of the convicts, but without effect. On the following morning, during the time the convicts were in chapel, they commenced hooting and yelling. Several of the ringleaders were secured and confined, but this did not deter the others from repeating their insubordinate conduct. The ringleaders are convicts under sentence of penal servitude for life who have recently arrived at the prison. Not only has the insubordination manifested itself in the chapel, but on the convicts being locked in their cells they continued to shout, kick the doors, and in some cases demolish their cell furniture. Four of the ringleaders, Peters, Thomason, Burke, and Bennett, were sent to London on Saturday. On their arrival at the London-bridge station, Burke declared he would proceed no further. However, by, with the rest, was forced into an omnibus, when Burke began smashing the windows. The warders fastened his hands behind him, after which he was safely removed to Pentonville.

SPANISH INTERVIEW.—The *Clamor Publico* of Madrid says a report was current that two high personages—one of them a female—had been arrested, and that "strange reasons" were assigned for the arrest. The *Epoca* also refers to the matter, and says that it has reason to believe that a female had been taken into custody for having brought from London a number of the bonds of the loan which Don Juan wants to raise.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD.—A discussion took place in the City Court of Sessions on Tuesday on the Adulteration of Food Act. The general opinion appeared to be that the Act would be practically inoperative, and the Court therefore took no step to provide for its enforcement. Dr. Letheby, however, thought that the publication of the names of offenders would have a deterring effect.

COTTON SUPPLY.

THE annual meeting of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, held on Monday, was of a more than usually important character. A letter was read from Lord John Russell.

Lord John Russell desires to place at the disposal of the cotton manufacturers in this country the services of any of her Majesty's Consuls residing in countries which, from the information now in the possession of the Cotton Association, offer a prospect of immediate supply, if it were necessary to have recourse to them.

Lord John Russell would not indeed think it right that her Majesty's Consuls should be allowed to incur any expenditure of public money on this account, or in any way to pledge the Government to the collectors or producers of cotton within their districts that the fruit of their labours would surely find a British market; but the Consuls might ascertain what amount of cotton might be expected to be forthcoming in their respective districts to meet any sudden demand, or what amount might be brought into the local market if the native dealers had a reasonable assurance of finding customers for it at a given time.

In the discussion which ensued India appeared to be generally regarded as the great source of supply, and a resolution was passed impressing the directors with the importance of "giving special attention to the financial and commercial affairs" of that country.

The provisional directors of the Cotton Company (Limited) appealed to a general meeting of spinners and manufacturers, which meeting was held at Manchester on Tuesday in support of the project, the trade at large having so far failed to afford means for the undertaking. The meeting assembled in the Mayor's parlour, but was adjourned to the largest room of the Townhall, which was soon crowded in every part. The Mayor of Manchester (Mr. Curtis) took the chair. There were present—Lord A. Churchill, M.P.; Mr. Bazley, M.P.; Mr. J. A. Turner, M.P.; Captain Gray, M.P.; and many men of rank in trade and commerce. Mr. Bazley said "he was quite sure that the Government of the country was perfectly willing to assist the trade in increasing the supply of its raw material. It would be with the greatest ease that 250,000 Chinamen with their families (perhaps a million of people) might in the course of a comparatively short time be removed from the Chinese empire to our Australian possessions. In the course of two or three years we might by some strenuous exertions produce a crop of cotton equal to 2,000,000 bags in the year. If, in connection with some effort to supply cotton, whether from India or Australia, 1000 men in England would advance a £1000 each, this capital of £1,000,000 would be but a trifling contribution from a trade in which was invested something like £200,000,000, and their raw material would thus be insured at a very cheap rate indeed."

The meeting resolved:—

That this meeting cordially approves the initiatory efforts of the provisional directors of the "Cotton Company (Limited)," and is of opinion that at the present crisis the basis of their action should be greatly enlarged, and hereby strongly recommends that the exertions of that body be vigorously renewed, its permanent directors appointed, the company registered, and operations commenced without delay.

REFORMATORY CONFERENCE AT BIRMINGHAM.

A CONFERENCE, arising out of the reformatory movement, but chiefly in connection with that branch of it which contemplates the education of "the neglected and destitute children of Great Britain," commenced in Birmingham on Wednesday, under the presidency of the Right Hon. Sir John Pakington, M.P. The circular under which the conference was convened laid down the following "general principle":—

The welfare of society requires that all its members should be educated. Therefore it is the duty of the State, both as regards society in general and each individual composing it, to provide education for those who cannot obtain it for themselves. This duty is recognised by the State, since it provides education for those who are in gaols and reformatories, and therefore come compulsorily under its care, and for those who are thrown on society for support—i.e., paupers. The same duty exists, but has not been discharged by the State, towards children who are not as yet either criminals or paupers, but whose natural guardians will not, or cannot, provide for their education. It is the object of the conference to lay before the Executive Government and the Legislature, as a consequence of the principle above stated, the imperative duty of its providing education for this portion of the community."

The attendance was numerous, and included the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, Lord Calthorpe, Lord Lyttelton, the Earl of Lichfield, Lord Ingestre, M.P.; Sir Baldwin Leighton, M.P.; Mr. W. D. Hill, Q.C.; Mr. Scholefield, M.P.; the Hon. and Rev. G. M. Yorke, the Mayor of Birmingham, Mr. T. C. S. Kynersey, the Rev. Dr. Miller, Mr. C. W. Hoskyns, Mr. Spooner, M.P.; Dr. Guthrie; Mr. R. Hanbury, M.P.; Mr. C. H. Bracebridge, Dr. Bell, Edinburgh; Mr. C. W. Hastings, Miss Carpenter, of Bristol; Mr. C. F. Ramsey, of Aberdeen; the Rev. J. T. Burt, Chaplain of the Birmingham Gaol; Mr. W. Partridge, police magistrate, Wolverhampton; Mr. Charles Ratcliff, Hon. Secretary of the Conference; the Hon. Major Anson, Mr. Berwick Baker, Hardwick-court; the Rev. G. Hans Hamilton, Berwick-upon-Tweed; Mr. R. Baker, Inspector of Factories; Dr. Birt Davies, and a large number of the clergy, as well as other well-known persons who take an interest in philanthropic labours.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED TIMES.)

Sir,—Permit me to correct some misstatements with regard to the oratorio of Herr Schachner mentioned on page 14 of the ILLUSTRATED TIMES. This oratorio, "Irad's Heimkehr" ("Israel's Way Home"), was first performed at Berlin, on Sunday last, the 20th inst. Her Royal Highness the Princess Frederick William has graciously permitted the oratorio to be dedicated to her. The performance was a great success of a novel kind of sacred music, inspired in the first instance by sacred songs of Thomas Moore: "Fallen is thy throne, O Israel;" "Oh, thou that dwellest in many waters;" "Sound the loud timbrel;" "Come not, O Lord, in the dread robe of splendour;" "Hark, 'tis the voice of twilight calling;" "Go forth to the mount, bring the olive-branch home." Dr. H. Beta.

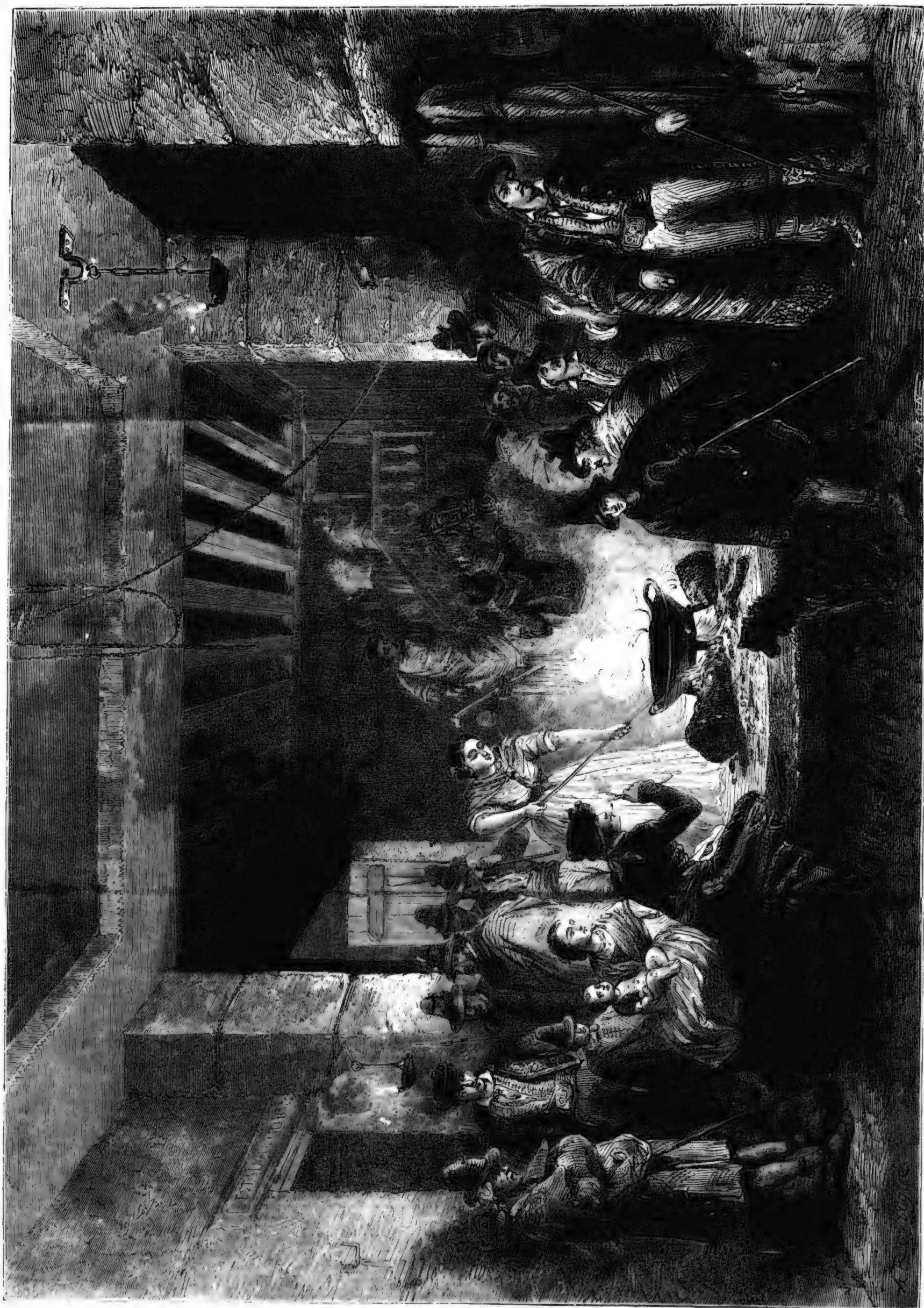
THE SYRIAN QUESTION.—The *Independence Belge* states that a new proposition has been made from Paris to the effect that the Syrian commission shall meet in that capital before the 15th of February to consider the continuance of the French occupation. The Emperor, while declaring himself ready to submit to the decision of Europe, relies much upon the influence of discussion to induce the British Cabinet not to insist upon the recall of the French expeditionary corps.

THE ORLEANSISTS AND THE CHURCH.—The following extraordinary story of the Bishop of Orleans is told by a Paris correspondent of the *Nord*:—"Mgr. Dupanloup has just written a letter to the Duke d'Aumale which has produced an immense sensation in the Orleans family. In this letter he has celebrated the Prelate, as I am assured, earnestly recommending the party to make common cause with the supporters of the Church. He predicts the speedy fall of the Empire and the restoration of the Orleans family."

AN ARCHDUKE IN DANGER.—As the Archduke Ferdinand Maximilian was travelling by railway to Vienna last week the saloon carriage caught fire, by the overheating of a stove. One of the suite clambered on to the roof of the carriage, and his cries were at last heard by the engine-driver, who brought the train to a standstill. With some difficulty the velvet hangings were torn down, and the furniture thrown out of window; and the fire was extinguished with the aid of water and snow.

THE SPANISH THRONE.—Dynastic questions are not dormant yet in Spain, and the latest cobbling in that quarter is a project for patching up the difficulty by a marriage between the eldest daughter of Isabella and the second son of Don Juan (now inheritor by Divine right), the boy's age bringing him on a level with the damsel, an objection being taken to his being too young, because he is brought up by the Duke of Modena, whose sister Don Juan married, and whose wife is in charge of the lad at present.

A VOLUNTEER CAMP.—A company has been formed, under the auspices of some of the most influential noblemen and gentlemen who have identified themselves with the volunteer movement for the purpose of establishing a permanent camp, where volunteers may learn with readiness every duty connected with military regulation. The price of the shares has been fixed at £2 each, and many of them have been already taken. It is contemplated to erect 2000 huts within thirteen miles of London by railway, each fitted and furnished for one volunteer, who will pay a small sum per week as rent. The Duke of Manchester has accepted the post of chairman.



INTERIOR OF A SPANISH COUNTRY IN

A "POSADA" IN THE SIERRA NEVADA.

FROM the time of Don Quixote to the days of Mr. Borrow's Spanish Gipsies Spain seems to have retained its romantic peculiarities. And even in our own time the very idea of a Spanish inn and an "olla podrida" suggests all sorts of fanciful notions, many of which are founded on fact. There is but little change, especially in the more remote districts; and the high-peaked hat of the guerrilla pattern, enlivened with bands of velvet—the muleteer's wonderful boots and ornamented short jacket—the breeches with a full constellation of silver buttons, and even the bare legs and sandalled feet of the shepherds, are to be met with in the courtyard of the genuine Spanish inn as matters of course.

Our Engraving represents one of these posadas, with just such a mixed company as would come in at night in the hope of partaking of the savory mess which is already overpowering their olfactory sense.

ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY.

IN the year 1774 the Royal Humane Society was founded by the late Dr. Hawes for the purpose of collecting and circulating the most effectual methods for recovering the apparently drowned; secondly, to suggest and provide suitable apparatus for the preservation and restoration of life; and, thirdly, to bestow rewards, honorary and pecuniary, on those who assist in securing either of the above objects. In 1784 King George III. became patron of the society, and in 1834 beneficently granted a plot of ground on the north bank of the Serpentine River, Hyde Park, for the erection of a receiving-house in case of accidents, where the society erected a building, furnished with such apparatus as cannot be rivalled in Europe for the restoration of unfortunate persons immersed in the contiguous water. In addition this society has established 260 receiving-houses in the vicinity of the metropolis where the apparatus and drags are placed; and in most places a surgeon is appointed, who attends gratuitously every case immediately he is sent for. There are also branches in operation in some parts of the country.

From the commencement of the frost, on the 17th of December last, to the present time, the total estimated number of skaters and sliders which have ventured on the ice in the various Royal parks and in Kensington Gardens is 570,000, of whom 160 have been immersed and rescued by the icemen employed by this society, and then resuscitated by the excellent methods adopted by them; in addition to which nearly 600 persons have received surgical treatment at the receiving-house, and marquee at the

hands or the medical officers of the society—some suffering from the most terrible burns, the result of fireworks and torches during the mad scenes enacted of a night on the Serpentine, others from every

A police-stretcher is also kept at the Receiving-house ready for carrying persons in cases of accidents by equestrians, &c. When an accident occurs, and while the boatmen are engaged in



BARON SCHLEINTZ.

imaginable kind of broken bone, and the majority from sickening cuts generally of the forehead and eyebrows, making it a rather difficult operation for the surgeon to dress them. All these services are rendered gratis to the public by the Royal Humane Society, which is supported by voluntary contributions and subscriptions; but during the frost the funds contributed in support of this most useful charity have not amounted to £10, when, if each skater only put in the box provided for that purpose one shilling during the season, it would enable the society to meet the great demands on its resources for icemen's wages, which have amounted of late to £80 a week, the practice of night-skating compelling a relay of men to be put on at five o'clock when the day men go off. In addition to the great expense of wages, the repairs and renewal of apparatus will be a large item in the expenditure.

During the summer the society's boatmen are engaged every morning and evening in rescuing the bathers who, whilst swimming, often get the cramp, and sink to the bottom; when, on the first alarm, the boat is speedily on the spot, and, by the activity of the men employed, the sufferers are generally caught by the drags, and at once taken into the boat, when, if unconscious, they are conveyed to the receiving-house, where the methods for resuscitation are in almost all cases successful.

The arrangements during the frost have been carried out under the direction of Mr. Lambton Young, the secretary; Dr. Christian, the society's chief medical officer; and Mr. Williams, the superintendent.

The Royal Humane Society's Receiving-house is situated on the north bank of the Serpentine River, midway between the bridge and the east end. It contains, besides accommodation for the resident superintendent and boatmen of the society, two wards, a surgery, and committee-room. The wards are furnished with four baths and six beds, and, when filled with hot water, the bedding becomes heated. The object of this is to keep up the temperature of the body after the patient is removed from the warm bath to the bed. There are likewise two hollow iron tables, with pipes leading to a boiler, through which the hot water circulates, keeping the hot-water bottles, &c., warm and the rooms at a high rate of temperature. About two tons of water are thus constantly kept hot throughout the year; and by these arrangements a warm bath can be obtained (night or day) immediately.



THE RECEIVING-HOUSE OF THE ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY, HYDE PARK.

recovering the body from the water, a messenger is dispatched for the medical attendant at Knightsbridge; thus no loss of time occurs, which is so essential in cases of suspended animation.

In the committee-room will be found a glass case filled with interesting inventions and models of life-boats, and various implements and apparatus for saving life at sea, which are worthy of the inspection of the public, and probably would suggest a new idea to the ingenious mechanic who may have any invention in hand for a similar purpose. The public are freely invited to inspect the building, which is open daily from nine o'clock in the morning until dusk.

BARON ALEXANDER VON SCHLEINITZ, PRUSSIAN MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

THE able statesman who now conducts the foreign policy of Prussia belongs to the younger of the Brunswick branch of the ancient family of Schleinitz. He was born, in the year 1807, at Brunswick, where his father filled the posts of Privy Councillor and President of the High Court of Appeals, and where his elder brother, Charles Henry (who died in Rome, in 1856), was a Minister of State. Another brother of Baron Alexander is President of the Government of Bamberg, and high in the confidence and favour of the present King of Prussia. All the family are imbued with liberal principles, and are favourable to the progress of liberal tendencies.

Alexander von Schleinitz entered on the career of diplomacy at an early period of life. Before he had completed his fortieth year he had repeatedly been intrusted with political missions; and he subsequently became chief councillor in the political section of the foreign administrations in Berlin. In the year 1848 he succeeded Henry von Arnim as head of Foreign Affairs in the Camphausen Ministry; but he shortly afterwards relinquished that post to fill the functions of Prussian Envoy at the Court of Hanover. In 1849 Baron Schleinitz was commissioned to negotiate the peace with Denmark. The commercial interests of Prussia had suffered considerably from the blockade of the Baltic; Russia and England pressed for a cessation of hostilities; Germany was distracted by revolution; and the rupture with Austria was looming in the background. Nevertheless, all these difficulties might have been overcome but for the want of self-confidence in the Cabinet at Berlin which wellnigh brought the negotiations to a failure. It was, therefore, no fault of Baron von Schleinitz if all he could obtain from Denmark was the promise not to incorporate Schleswig, and to grant a special Constitution to the Duchy. At the close of these negotiations, through the influence of the present King (then Prince of Prussia), Baron von Schleinitz was placed at the head of the Department of Foreign Affairs, which office he held until September, 1850, when the portfolio of that department passed into the hands of M. von Radowitz.

In 1858 the Prince of Prussia, having become Regent, restored Baron von Schleinitz to the office he formerly held, and which he continues to fill under the present King's Government.

VALUE OF BAROMETRICAL INDICATIONS.

ON the occasion of the hurricane which swept the island of St. Kilda, in the Hebrides, on the 3rd of October last, and inflicted such distressing loss on its poor inhabitants, the following were the indications of a new verified barometer on board her Majesty's steamer Porcupine, then off the island, as reported by her commander, Capt. Otter, R.N. The rapid and regular fall of the mercury to the extent of $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch between 8 a.m. on the 2nd of October and 3.26 a.m. on the 3rd, at which latter time the hurricane began, and its then rapid rise of nearly an inch, are interesting verifications of the certainty by which coming weather is indicated by this valuable instrument, which is at this moment deservedly attracting so much public attention:—

		Inches.	Wind.
Oct. 2.	8.0 a.m.	mercury 30.32	—
	8.0 p.m.	" 29.75	—
	8.15 p.m.	" 29.70	S.
	8.45 p.m.	" 29.62	S.S.W.
	10.30 p.m.	" 29.34	S.S.W.
	11.0 p.m.	" 29.26	S.S.W.
	11.45 p.m.	" 29.22	S.W.
Oct. 3.	0.15 a.m.	" 29.16	S.W.; heavy squalls.
	0.45 a.m.	" 29.10	S.W.; heavy squalls.
	2.0 a.m.	" 28.96	S.W.; heavy squalls.
	2.40 a.m.	" 28.87	S.W.; nearly calm.
	3.20 a.m.	" 28.87	S.W.; westerly.
	3.26	"	N.W.; hurricane began.
	5.30 a.m.	" 29.52	N., N.N.W.; gale.
	6.10 a.m.	" 29.65	N.N.W.
	7.15 a.m.	" 29.55	N.; nearly calm.
	Noon	" 29.87	N.W. by N.
	2.30 p.m.	" 29.87	—

Admiral Cator also recently reported to the National Life-boat Institution that, while at Cultercoats, near Shields, in the beginning of October last, the fishermen of that place had expressed to him their gratitude for the barometer which the Duke of Northumberland, president of the institution, had presented to them. A fearful gale from the westward had about that time somewhat suddenly sprung up. The fishermen were preparing to go to sea. Some of them had observed the fall of the mercury in the barometer, while others disputed its utility and value, and even treated it with derision. The majority of the fishermen, however, decided that they would not go to sea while the barometer was falling, although it was quite fair at the time. A few hours afterwards a terrific gale of wind came on from the westward, when they expressed their firm conviction that every one of them would, had they gone to sea—as most assuredly they would have gone in the absence of the barometer—probably have perished, by being blown far into the ocean and there overwhelmed.

The diagram annexed is for the month of November of last year. It has been prepared by James Glaisher, Esq., F.R.S., and is an illustration of two-inch diagram which will be placed by the side of the barometer of the National Life-boat Institution on various parts of the coasts of the United Kingdom. An inspection will show that till the 5th day the deviations from a horizontal line are very small; then there is an ascending line to the 7th, when the highest point in the month is reached; from this time till the 12th the barometer-reading was constantly decreasing; on the 13th day there was scarcely any change; on the 14th, two points are laid down, as the reading decreased from 29.46 in. in the morning to 29.28 in. in the evening; on the 15th the lowest reading in the month took place; on the 16th the reading was steady all day; it then decreased during the night to 29.20 in.; on the following morning there was a rise of half an inch between the 17th and 18th; and the increase continued till the 19th. There was then a decrease to the 21st; and alternately an increase and decrease about the point 29.5 in. till the end of the month.

Now if, day by day, such curves be laid down, and be watched in connection with the direction of the wind and the barometer instructions of Admiral Fitzroy, F.R.S., they will certainly tend to save many lives and to preserve much valuable property from destruction. We may add that the gallant Admiral, as well as Mr. Glaisher, F.R.S., is cordially co-operating with the Royal National Life-boat Institution in the establishment of thoroughly efficient barometers on the coast.

The barometers will be placed, in a case with a plate-glass door, in a neat niche in the walls of the life-boat houses of the institution wherever practicable. As the expense attendant on the purchase and

complete fitting-up of a barometer cannot be less than £10, it is to be hoped that the public will continue to extend their support to the National Life-boat Institution to carry out effectually this important and humane undertaking.

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

"BIANCA" was revived last week at the Royal English Opera. It is a pity that it should have been found necessary to lay this work aside even to make way for the pantomime, but at Christmas-time the Clown and his associates tolerate no rivals. Now that the holiday folks have, to a certain extent, been satisfied, the pantomime will, no doubt, be reduced to the smallest possible dimensions, and some two or three hours in the evening will be devoted regularly at Covent Garden to operatic performances. "Bianca," for the great majority of amateurs, will still possess all the attractiveness of a new opera; and when—as in the natural course of things, and especially of a new opera, must necessarily happen—"Bianca" has had her day, we shall have the "Domino Noir" to replace her. With "Bianca," which, clearly interpreted, means "The White Lady," or, to adopt a very free translation, "The Lady in White," and "Le Domino Noir," which, as every one knows, means "The Black Domino," it is as plain as black and white that the Royal English Opera will have plenty of musical inducements to offer to playgoers for the next two or three months—that is to say, until the end of the English operatic season.

The large audiences that have assembled at the Royal English Opera since the representation of "Bianca" are a convincing proof that this establishment, even at Christmas-time, ought to rely altogether on the attractiveness of its musical performances. No pantomime-acting equal to that of Mr. W. H. Payne in the part of Bluebeard can be seen anywhere, and yet, when nothing but the pantomime and M. Victor Massé's one-act operetta were being played, the theatre was seldom well attended, except for a few days immediately after Christmas. At present it is full every evening.

At Her Majesty's Theatre opera is being sacrificed to pantomime much as it used to be sacrificed to ballet during the Lumley régime. Since the withdrawal of "Queen Topaze" the frequenters of this establishment have been regaled with a synopsized version of the "Trovatore," of which the first and fourth acts alone have been performed; the public did not seem to regret the second and third. The pantomime, we must add, is still received with many marks of approbation; and the ingenious little representative of "Tom Thumb" obtains almost as much success in her way as the admirable (quite unapproachable) impersonator of Bluebeard at the Royal English Opera. We are glad to see, at Her Majesty's, Wallace's "Amber Witch" announced for immediate production. The composer of "Maritana," "Matilda of Hungary," "Lurline," and the "Amber Witch," has arrived in London from Paris, New York, and a variety of other places, and is doubtless at the present moment superintending the rehearsal of his latest work, which we hope and expect (if we may be allowed to make use of an expression justly stigmatised by the *Saturday Review* as belonging to the "vilest French slang") will be "a great success."

The Monday Popular Concerts, interrupted for a time by the Christmas holidays, were resumed on the 12th of January, when M. Vieuxtemps, the celebrated Belgian violinist, made his first appearance in London after an absence of eight years. M. Vieuxtemps' magnificent playing in a quartet of Schubert's, with which the concert commenced, was fully appreciated, and the quartet itself (which, like every thing Schubert ever wrote, is full of melody and expression) was enthusiastically received by the audience. It may be remembered that one of Schubert's symphonies was produced last season for the first time in England by the Musical Society of London, and that it met with less favour than has been bestowed from time to time on various new pieces by members of this society, who would gain nothing to have their names mentioned in the same sentence with that of Schubert. We are glad to find that the directors of the Monday Popular Concerts are not to be deterred by the comparative failure of this composer's symphony at the concerts of the Musical Society from endeavouring to familiarise the public with some of his most remarkable pieces for stringed quartets. M. Vieuxtemps was afterwards heard, conjointly with Miss Arabella Goddard, in Beethoven's sonata in C minor, which was as well received and as admirably played as was the popular "Kreutzer Sonata" last year when executed by Miss Arabella Goddard and Herr Joachim. Miss Goddard also performed, with much spirit and with exquisite grace, Bach's "Prelude and Fugue à la Tarantella." This was again "a great success"—that is to say, great success attended its performance.

The vocalists of the evening were Miss Augusta Thompson and Miss Lascelles.

The London Glee and Madrigal Union, under the able direction of Mr. Land, has been giving some admirable concerts at the Dudley Gallery in the Egyptian Hall. To judge (says a contemporary) from the enthusiasm exhibited by the ever fresh and genial specimens of our national school, which up to the present moment the programmes have included, the success of the London Glee and Madrigal Union promises to be at least equal to that which it so honourably achieved about a year since. The principal singers are still Misses Wells and Eyles, Messrs. Baxter, Cumming, Land (who sings as artistically as he accompanies), and Lawler. It is scarcely possible to conceive a more perfect unanimity of style and feeling than long and assiduous training together has enabled these singers to obtain, or anything better arranged than the selections of which their entertainments are composed. Add to this the interlucory, or rather intercantatory, remarks of Mr. Thomas Oilphant, hon. secretary to the society, and one of the most erudite music-literary antiquaries of this country—remarks often new and suggestive, as often witty and humorous, and invariably relevant (to say nothing of their judicious conciseness), and nothing is left to desire. The element of instruction (adds the *Times*), whether from an historical, biographical, or simply technical point of view, thus presented as an additional feature of interest instead of being, as is so frequently the case, a bore, cannot be too heartily welcomed.

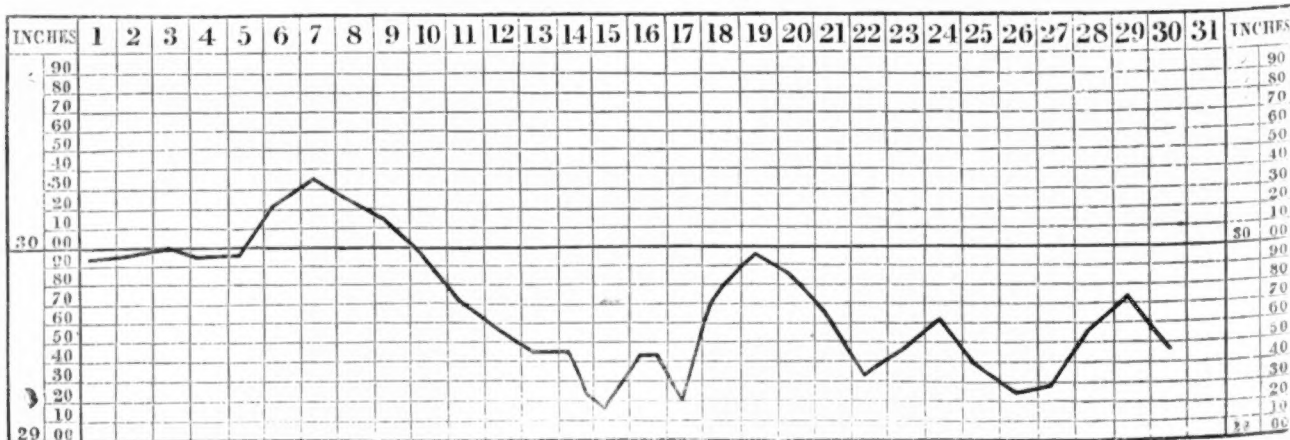
LAW AND CRIME.

IN the Court of Queen's Bench, on Saturday last, was argued an appeal from a conviction by a metropolitan police magistrate of a defendant charged with having used an unlawful threat towards his employer. The defendant was one of a number of joiners who signed a paper requiring their master to dismiss from his employment two individuals, and threatening to desert his employ, in a body, in case of his noncompliance. Their objection to work with the two persons specified was that during the strike these men had accepted work. The employer prosecuted the appellant for the "threat," and the magistrate, as has been before recorded at the time in these columns, convicted and sentenced him for the offence. We quote in full the judgment delivered by the Lord Chief Justice on the part of the whole Court, as we consider it to be of the greatest importance with respect to the relative rights of labourers and employers. The Lord Chief Justice said "he was decidedly of opinion that every workman in the service of the employer was entitled to the unfettered exercise of his own discretion whether he would continue in that employment so long as he had not entered into a contract for a specific period of service. It entirely rested with him whether he would remain in such employment with other persons with whom he might not choose to work; and, more than that, if several persons in the employment of a master considered others in that employment obnoxious to them, either personally or on account of their character or conduct, they had a perfect right to put to their employer the alternative whether he would discharge the obnoxious persons and retain their services, or discharge the man and retain the services of the obnoxious persons. Any workman might leave his master's employ for any reason he might deem sufficient, and there was no law to control him in that respect. But if men went farther, and did not fairly put the alternative to the master as to whether he would keep or discharge them, but seek to coerce the master by the threat of doing something which was likely to operate to his injury if he did not discharge certain other persons against whom they had some objection from his employ, his Lordship thought they properly came within the clauses of the Act of Parliament. In this case the question had not been put to the master so as to enable him to exercise his discretion; but the object was, by striking at a particular conjuncture, to coerce the master into yielding to their request. Upon a careful consideration of the whole of the circumstances he thought this was put as a threat, and that the appellant had brought himself within the Act, and that the conviction was right." The justice of this decision can scarcely be disputed, whatever sympathy one must naturally have with the misguided prisoner, who suffers for a fault in which he has been abetted by the mistaken promoters of the strike and the persecutors of the few who were too prudent to follow their evil counsel. The results of the strike are now before the world in the dreadful distress, among that of others, of the class who suffered themselves to be misled by the fallacies of Potter and his crew, and of that blatant donkey who brayed out an apophthegm that if political economy were against them they would be against political economy. Political economy was against the strike, which, after a protracted struggle, ended by leaving the men exactly in the same position, with respect to its objects, as if it had never taken place. But it is not to be forgotten that for many weeks, when work was abundant, the strike forced thousands out of employ, and that labourers could then be supported by their own united funds subscribed from their earnings. Now that these same men are driven from work by causes utterly beyond their own powers of control, individual or united, these same men have no fund wherewith to look for help beyond those subscribed voluntarily by the public, including those very capitalists whom the labourers regarded as tyrannical oppressors, and did their utmost to pauperise and ruin. The amount sacrificed to support the workmen in their futile strike might just as well have supported them through the trying season of winter, and would have done so had the counsel of their leaders been wise instead of foolish. We have every feeling of pity for the deluded followers of such blind guides; but it is nevertheless impossible not to perceive that it must be a very false notion of independence which keeps a man with his hands in his pockets listening to pothouse demagogues while there is work to be done, and, when there is none, sends him a shivering mendicant to a police court to crave relief from the funds charitably contributed by his mis-called enemies and tyrants.

Mr. Commissioner Nicholls has been exerting himself in a truly herculean labour—that of cleansing the Augean stable of the Insolvent Court. On Thursday week the learned Commissioner ordered an attorney named Appleyard to be struck off the rolls of this court for malpractices, and also ordered that a person entitled an accountant, which elsewhere bears its ordinary signification but, in Portugal street generally means an unlicensed ignorant prowler and attorney's "tout," should be debarred from practicing his avocation in that locality. On Saturday last the Commissioner struck off a Mr. Rosson, an attorney, from the court roll in consequence of a little exposure. Rosson attested a petition as signed in Whitecross-street Prison, whereas it had not been so signed. Two fellows, named respectively Fisher and Dyson, "accountants," swore they had been clerks to Rosson. Rosson swore they had not been so, but that Fisher had "introduced cases." The Commissioner, therefore, also disqualified the two accountants from further practices of the kind, and made the following remarks:—

It was said that it was a common practice to use attorneys' names; and all he could say on the subject was that whenever any case was brought before the court he would act in the same way he intended to do in the present case. In his opinion it was the bounden duty of all courts to check the system, and to prevent attorneys from lending their names. By the last Attorneys' Act (23rd Vic.) any person acting as an attorney was guilty of a contempt, and liable to be punished, and also liable to an action for a penalty of £50 to be recovered against him. It was necessary for the sake of the profession as well as the public to visit the cases when they did occur to the extent allowed by the law, with the view of preventing other persons from acting in a similar manner. In this case Dyson and Fisher had acted as attorneys in the matter, and were open to punishment as provided by the law. An action could be brought against them, in the name of the Attorney-General, by the Law Incorporation Society.

DAYS OF THE MONTH.



A SPECIMEN OF A DAILY BAROMETER DIAGRAM FOR NOVEMBER, 1860.

